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NATO LEADERS MUST FOLLOW USSR OR FACE NEW STAGE IN ARMS RACE

LD171243 Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 13 Oct 79 p 1 LD

[Yuriy Sibirtsev "International Review": "The New Peace Initiative"]

[Text] The visit to the GDR by a Soviet party and government delegation to participate in the republic's 30th anniversary celebrations was an event of outstanding significance both in terms of the further strengthening of interaction between the CPSU and the SED and between the USSR and the GDR and from the viewpoint of the vital interests of peace and international security, the CPSU Central Committee Politburo, USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium and USSR Council of Ministers document "On the Results of the USSR Party and Government Delegation Visit to the GDR" notes.

"In Europe and all other parts of the world we want peace, lasting peace. This is the fundamental basis of our foreign policy, its backbone. We are pursuing this policy consistently and unswervingly"--these words pronounced by L.I. Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, at the ceremonial session in Berlin on the occasion of the GDR's 30th anniversary reflect the peace-loving direction of the USSR's foreign policy course and its humane strategy. And, as always, the Soviet state's love of peace is in keeping with its practical actions. In his speech L.I. Brezhnev promulgated an action program whose implementation will bring Europe closer to more reliable peace and even sounder security.

He stated that the Soviet Union is ready to reduce the present level of medium-range nuclear missiles deployed in the western part of the Soviet Union on condition that additional medium-range nuclear missiles are not deployed in Western Europe.

By agreement with the GDR and after consultation with the other Warsaw Pact states the USSR decided to reduce unilaterally the strength of Soviet forces in central Europe. During the next 12 months about 20,000 Soviet servicemen, 1,000 tanks and also a quantity of other military equipment will be withdrawn from GDR territory.

These measures affect the most sensitive aspects of military detente on the European Continent. Through its readiness to reduce its missile potential the Soviet Union sets an example of how Europe's slide onto the path of intensive nuclear rivalry can be averted. And this prospect will become a reality if the forthcoming December session of the NATO Council in Brussels decides to transfer American medium-range nuclear-missiles to Europe.

The decision to unilaterally withdraw Soviet forces from central Europe must impart positive impetus to the Vienna talks on the mutual reduction of armed forces and armaments and help to extricate them from the quagmire of numerical disputes brought about by the Western partners.

The new Soviet initiatives on problems of military detente and disarmament meets with the full support of the GDR and the other fraternal socialist community countries. It was greeted with great interest among influential circles in many countries and has strengthened the peoples' hopes of lasting peace.

The Soviet initiative does not allow the NATO circles who are continuing eagerly to spin the flywheel of the arms race to remain silent. It places them in a difficult situation. It is becoming increasingly difficult to resort to the falsified "Soviet threat" thesis when the USSR is unilaterally reducing its forces. This "argument" is becoming increasingly ragged. So they are feverishly seeking new "arguments" and thinking up new pretexts.

Currently the most common thesis employed in bourgeois propaganda and by the Western "big press" is the assertion of continuing USSR "superiority" over the West allegedly resulting from the additional deployment of medium-range nuclear systems.

This is talked and written about despite the fact that the head [glava] of the CPSU and Soviet state stated clearly and succinctly that the USSR is not seeking military superiority. In the last 10 years the number of medium-range nuclear weapon vehicles on the territory of the European part of the Soviet Union has not been increased by a single missile or aircraft. Moreover, the number of medium-range missile launching installations and the size of the missiles' nuclear warheads have in fact been somewhat reduced. The USSR is not deploying these facilities on the territory of other states--and this fact should be particularly emphasized.

Following the example of those who direct the ramified apparatus of bourgeois propaganda the following "argument" has been brought into play: The Soviet Union's measures may be good but they are...inadequate. They would not mind the Soviet Union disarming to the point where the West had a tangible military edge. In other words, the West has to have an enormous Colt revolver in its pocket while the Soviet Union has a lady's pistol. But this will not be and there is no point dreaming about it. The Soviet Union is adopting unilateral measures in order to set the Western partners a good example and to break the deadlock in the years-long efforts in the military detente sphere. If the West regards the Soviet measures as inadequate and is prepared to adopt more radical measures then who is stopping it?

The sole purpose of these Western "arguments" is to confuse people, to stupefy them, to paralyze their will to resist and, to the accompaniment of militarist appeals, to drag through the NATO Council Brussels session a decision to upgrade [dovooruzheniye] its arsenal with the so-called Eurostrategic weapons and "cruise missiles."

There are people in the West who, like the U.S. President's National Security Assistant Brzezinski, reason in an enviably straightforward way. Let the USSR take specific disarmament measures while we go our own militarist way--this is their unsubtle political philosophy. But it won't do in our era. The problem of the arms race must be solved.

Western Europe is now at a crossroads. It must state clearly and conclusively whether it intends to continue along the route mapped out by the all-European conference in Helsinki or turn off in the direction in which it is being pushed by the advocates of nuclear weapons.

"The Soviet initiative has provided an opportunity for preventing a new bout of the arms race, embarking on the path of real disarmament and cherishing and augmenting the fruits of detente and peaceful cooperation. Whether or not this opportunity is utilized depends on the United States, the FRG and the other NATO countries. The Western countries' leaders must display a sense of responsibility and respond in a spirit of goodwill to the Soviet Union's example. The peoples expect this," the CPSU Central Committee Politburo, USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium and USSR Council of Ministers document "On the Results of the USSR Party and Government Delegation's visit to the GDR" says.

It is the duty of peace-loving forces not to allow Europe to be dislodged from the Helsinki path. The leaders of the NATO countries have historic responsibility. Whether they follow Moscow's example or choose to plunge Europe into a new and dangerous stage of the nuclear race--this is the question they must answer today.

So the response lies with the West.

FRG'S REACTION TO BREZHNEV'S PROPOSALS 'TEST OF SINCERITY'

ID171848 Moscow TASS in English 1742 GMT 17 Oct 79 ID

["A Touchstone for the FRG Policy"--TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow, October 17, TASS--TASS commentator Vladimir Senchenkov writes:

The package of Soviet proposals set forth in the speech by General Secretary of the CPSU CC, President of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet Leonid Brezhnev at the celebration meeting in Berlin has aroused close interest and is being profoundly studied in Bonn. It is precisely the FRG, judging by numerous public statements of its representatives on medium range weapons, that must be interested in a constructive discussion of the Soviet proposal.

The FRG is known to be assigned a key role in the implementation of the plans of deployment in Western Europe of new types of U.S. missile nuclear weapons targeted on the USSR and the other socialist countries. This means that the FRG, along with the Americans, will bear the main responsibility for the implementation of the plans fraught with the danger of whipping up the arms race, creating additional obstacles in the way of disarmament and jeopardising the policy of detente and peaceful cooperation.

The implementation of plans, whose essence is the West's striving for ensuring for itself unilateral advantages, will undermine the real basis existing now for talks on disarmament problems. The deployment in Western Europe of new missile nuclear weapons trained on the eastern part of the continent can seriously deteriorate the general political situation in Europe and complicate for a long period relations between European states. The possible consequences of implementation of the NATO's and Pentagon's plans are in clear conflict with the officially declared objectives of the FRG's foreign policy. Judging by the statements of FRG representatives, these objectives are the attainment of concrete results in real disarmament, a further strengthening of the policy of detente, depening and broadening of relations with the socialist countries. It must be believed that the FRG will not disregard this aspect either in determining its attitude to the Soviet proposal.

So far there is an impression that Bonn is inclined to underestimate the negative aftermaths with which the FRG will be faced in case the NATO's and Pentagon's plans are implemented. The right-wing forces of the FRG have launched an open campaign of sabotage of the Soviet proposal. They openly declared that NATO shall by no means give up plans in the field of building up the potential of medium range nuclear missiles. These forces are in a hurry to declare the good will gesture made by the Soviet Union as "Moscow's fresh subterfuge", present the essence of the Soviet initiative in a wrong light aimed at ensuring a peaceful future for the peoples of Europe.

The Soviet Union's proposal shows the sole posssible way leading to this goal--the way of negotiations. It is now for the West to give its answer. As far as the FRG is concerned it is literally a touchstone for it. It is a test of sincerity of its publicity statements of having a stake in resolving the problem of medium-range weapons through negotiations, a test for the wish and readiness of the FRG to participate in international efforts to limit the arms race and for disarmament. It is at last a test of the FRG's adherence to the idea of detente, the line for the development of goodneighbour relations with the socialist countries.

III. 18 Oct 79 AA 4 USSR INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS
DISARMAMENT/SALT/MBFR

SOVIET MARSHAL CHUYKOV COMMENTS ON ARMS INITIATIVE IN TV PROGRAM

LD172358 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1900 GMT 17 Oct 79 LD

[Text] Marshal of the Soviet Union Vasiliy Ivanovich Chuykov, twice hero of the Soviet Union, spoke today on the "Vremya" ["Time"] television program. Here is what he had to say: [begin recording]

[Chuykov] As is known, the Soviet Union, in agreement with other socialist countries, including the GDR, has taken the decision to unilaterally reduce the numbers of Soviet Armed Forces in central Europe by a whole 20,000 men and by 1,000 tanks. I would like to note that, over the last 10 years, the quantity of medium-range nuclear weapons has not been increased by us on the territory of the European part of the Soviet Union by one single missile, nor by one airplane. Moreover, Leonid Ilich Brezhnev has stated that we are ready to reduce the quantity of medium-range nuclear systems deployed in the western regions of the USSR if, of course, on the opposite side--that is, Western Europe--no additional medium-range nuclear systems are deployed. Those are our proposals. We, the Soviet people, and the decision of the Soviet Government has precisely decided to withdraw, to show the whole world that our words and deeds are not at variance with each other, because many in the West jabber--to put it bluntly--about the Soviet threat, that is simply--as we say in the military--the most outright lies, and because they go on supposedly about disarmament, but actually these are nothing but words, and the matter just doesn't move forward by a single centimer. [sentence as heard] But the Soviet Union, now, has said what it said and it will go on and do it and without hesitation. Why? Because it knows that the majority of progressive mankind wants peace.

Meanwhile, for us military people, it is highly interesting how the military circles of the United States and NATO view the new proposals from the Soviet Union. We know that NATO is nurturing new plans, heating up the atmosphere in various regions of the world. It is precisely with that aim that they have long been trumpeting about the new Soviet threat, frightening people with Soviet tanks and missiles. However, as they say, if the shoe fits [na vore shapka gorit: an uneasy conscience betrays itself]. The NATO command has at its disposal troops amounting to up to 70 divisions, more than 3,000 planes and 11,000 tanks, and an enormous quantity of other military hardware.

We cannot but see these real facts. Now it is proposed to modernize, in fact, it is proposed to deploy up to 600 modernized, new nuclear missiles with enhanced range warheads, the so-called Pershing-2, on the territory of the Western European states.

To me, as a military man, who went with the troops from Stalingrad to Berlin, the awful consequences of the arms race are especially clear. The whole arsenal of the fascists, with all its bombs and shells, just cannot be compared with the ruin and destruction which a nuclear war can cause to a civilian population. I think that all sober-minded people should understand what the introduction of new resources for fighting in the West means, and ask the question: Why do the governments of those countries not see-or try not to see--the desire of the peoples who want to live in peace and why do they not take the path toward satisfying the demands of their own people, but rather form their policy--as they do--against the wishes of their people?

The Soviet Union does not in any way fear ugly threats. Our call for peace, our peace initiatives, do not show weakness. No! They are a new, convincing testimony that we want peace. [end recording]

EUROMISSILE DEPLOYMENT: 'EXTRAORDINARILY DANGEROUS' FOR ITALY

LD171103 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 13 Oct 79 p 4 LD

[Correspondent N. Miroshnik interview with Gen Nino Pasti: "Preventing a Dangerous Step"]

[Text] L. I. Brezhnev's speech in Berlin is of great political significance, Italian Senator Gen Nino Pasti, former deputy supreme commander, NATO armed forces, Europe, has stated. This speech, he said in an interview with PRAVDA correspondent N. Miroshnik, reaffirmed the consistent foreign policy course of the Soviet Union which, from the first days of the October Revolution to the present, has steadily advocated preserving and strengthening peace.

The specific initiatives advanced in L. I. Brezhnev's speech, N. Pasti continued, merit the closest attention. I should particularly like to dwell on the statement regarding the Soviet Union's readiness to reduce the number of medium-range nuclear weapons deployed in the USSR's western regions if new U. S. nuclear missiles are not deployed in Western Europe. The point is that the U. S. plans to deploy Pershing-2 and cruise missiles on the territory of West European countries are, I am convinced, a threat to the prevailing strategic equilibrium between the USSR and the United States enshrined in the recently signed SALT II treaty. Judge for yourselves: The West states that the new U. S. nuclear missiles are essential as a counterweight to medium-range Soviet missiles. It forgets that even now approximately 8,000 nuclear weapons are deployed on West European territory, which, according to realistic estimates, exceeds the number of similar weapons deployed in the European part of the Soviet Union. But that is not the only point. The Soviet missiles in question in the West are not essentially strategic, since they cannot reach U. S. territory. At the same time the new U. S. missiles are designed precisely to strike targets on the USSR's territory. Violating the strategic parity between the two powers, the Pershing-2 nuclear missiles and cruise missiles thus encourage a further arms race. After all, the Soviet Union will quite naturally be obliged to respond to the U. S. actions by taking retaliatory measures.

Analyzing the situation prevailing on our continent and taking into account the Soviet side's well-known assurance, N. Pasti continued, I conclude that of the NATO countries Denmark and Norway are in the most secure position at present despite the fact that their own armed forces are comparatively small. There are no NATO troops or--this is the main point--nuclear weapons on those countries' territories at present.

It is another matter with regard to Italy, for instance, on whose territory 1,000-1,500 nuclear warheads are already deployed. As is well known, these weapons are under exclusive U. S. command. The Italian authorities cannot even veto their utilization. I will go further: There is a danger that they will not be informed in advance of their utilization. The existing accords within the NATO framework provide for a preliminary discussion of this question if the situation allows. But who will decide whether the situation allows it or not? The U. S. President and the NATO supreme commander in chief who, it is well known, is also an American. Thus, Italy would run the risk of a retaliatory strike against its will and provoked by the United States. Indeed it could even serve Washington's purposes in defending its own interests to jeopardize our country, and that does not suit Italians at all. Now that reports have appeared in the press alleging that the Italian Government will agree in December to the deployment of Pershing-2 and cruise missiles on Italian territory, N. Pasti said in conclusion, it is our task to prevent this step and explain to people its extraordinarily dangerous consequences.

WARSAW PACT PARLIAMENTARIANS APPEAL REPORTED

LD172108 Moscow TASS in English 2040 GMT 17 Oct 79 LD

["Call for Peace and Disarmament"--TASS headline]

[Text] Prague, October 17, TASS--The plans to deploy new types of American nuclear-missile weapons on the territory of Western Europe are intended to substantially change the strategic situation in the European Continent, disrupt the existing equilibrium of forces there and ensure military superiority for NATO, it is said in an appeal by representatives of the parliaments of Warsaw Treaty member-states to the parliaments of NATO countries. The appeal was adopted at a consultative meeting of representatives of the parliaments of Warsaw Treaty member-states, that ended here today.

The attempts by one side to achieve military superiority, the appeal says, are doomed to failure from the outset. The socialist countries would be compelled to take the necessary additional measures to ensure their security. They would have no other way out. The number of medium-range nuclear weapon delivery vehicles on the territory of the European part of the Soviet Union has not been increased by a single missile, by a single plane during the past ten years, as it was stated by Leonid Brezhnev in his speech in Berlin.

Yet another concrete evidence of the love of peace and good will of Warsaw Treaty states is the decision adopted by the Soviet Union, after consultations with other states of the Warsaw Treaty, to unilaterally reduce the number of Soviet troops in central Europe. The representatives of Warsaw Treaty member-states called on the parliaments of NATO countries to worthily assess the initiative of socialist states and persuade the governments of their countries to follow this good example.

The Warsaw Treaty member-states also come out for the further expansion of confidence-building measures in Europe. The following proposals are intended to attain this aim:

To make notification of large exercises of ground forces, as provided for by the Final Act of the European Conference on Security and Cooperation, at a still earlier date and not from the level of 25,000 men, as at present, but from the level of 20,000 men;

--On the basis of reciprocity not to hold military exercises involving the participation of more than 40-50 thousand men;

--To give advance notification not only about military exercises but also about movements of ground forces numbering more than 20,000 men in the area defined by the Final Act.

The Warsaw Treaty member-states have expressed readiness to study also other proposals directed at strengthening trust between states and at lessening the danger of war in Europe.

Representatives of Warsaw Treaty member-states called on the members of parliament of NATO countries to oppose the plans to deploy new types of American nuclear-missile arms in the European Continent because this would pose the danger of a new worsening of the situation in Europe and in the whole world.

ILL EFFECTS OF ARMS RACE ON USSR ECONOMY, SYSTEMS CONTRASTED

LD161029 Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 6 Oct 79 p 3 LD

[Droof Economic Sciences Prof V. Cherapakov article under the rubric "Using the Weapon of Truth: The Society of the Future and a Society Without a Future"]

[Text] It has long since been noted that the greater the economic and social difficulties experienced by the capitalist countries and the more acture the West's inherent contradictions become, the more cynically and aggressively the defenders of the capitalist system try to depict this system's sicknesses and upheavals as some kind of "phenomenon common to the whole world," and as the result of the development of civilization, and also, of course, to ascribe their own ailments to the socialist countries and particularly to the Soviet Union. This applies to assessments of the existing situation but perhaps still more to various kinds of forecasts for the future.

Let us try to investigate what actually lies behind the "forecasts" and "assessments" of this kind.

Let us start with the fact, well-known to the whole world, that the capitalist economy has been unable to extricate itself from profound crisis upheaval. A general revival, still less an upsurge, of the world capitalist economy did not come about after the grave and protracted crisis of 1973-1975. A number of very important sectors of industry, including the steel, shipbuilding, textile and now the automotive industries, are in a state of decline. Moreover, according to official government data, the United States has already entered a recession.

As far as the Soviet socialist economy is concerned, it--and the whole world also knows this--is experiencing a further upsurge accompanied by a steady improvement in the people's well-being. Here is just one statistic: In the first half of the current year the volume of industrial production increased 3.5 percent in comparison with the corresponding period last year.

Acute and chronic inflation accompanied by a fall in the purchasing power of money and by price rises has in recent years become a cancerous tumor on the body of the capitalist economy. The domestic state debt has been increasing rapidly year after year. The currency and financial system is in a chaotic state.

The Soviet economy has not been subjected to inflation and the ruble is stable. The socialist state is not burdened by debts and state expenditure is in balance with revenues.

There are already more than 18 million unemployed in the industrially developed capitalist countries. According to forecasts by U.S. economists by fall 1980 another 2.5 million persons will be added to the existing army of unemployed in the United States and the level of unemployment will reach 8.2 percent. Against this background the number of deprived people is increasing more and more. These include the unemployed who have finally despaired of finding work, bankrupt farmers, peasants and artisans, and young people who have not managed to find employment.

In the Soviet Union there is no place at all for these social misfortunes--there are no unemployed and there will never be any; there are no deprived people nor will there be any.

The problem of mineral raw materials has of late been growing increasingly acute and painful in the capitalist countries. These countries depend to a large extent, and sometimes mainly, on raw materials obtained from Asia, Africa and Latin America. The neocolonialist policy which imperialism uses in an attempt to resolve this problem at the present stage is encountering growing opposition and resistance. The peoples of liberated countries are demanding the establishment of equitable economic relations whereby a just correlation would exist between prices for the raw materials which the monopolies acquire in the developing countries and prices for the industrial goods and equipment which they sell to the developing countries.

Our country does not have any problem with mineral raw materials and this will never be an acute problem for it. The Soviet economy is not dependent on anyone. The Baykal-Amur main railroad, which gives access to unique untapped sources of energy and raw materials, the development of West Siberia's exceptional natural resources, and many other major, comprehensive measures which are being implemented by our people in the course of fulfilling the 5-year plan are covering industry's needs and will continue to cover them in the future.

New times engender new headaches for capitalism. The development of microelectronics, petrochemistry and molecular biology, the new level of production of automation, the introduction of various kinds of computers are all leading not just to the massive elimination of jobs but also to the wastage of skills of an extremely substantial proportion of the workers in the capitalist countries--the sole asset possessed by hired slaves.

This problem does not exist in the Soviet country. The existing research institutes over the whole spectrum of modern science and the high proportion of skilled cadres in the sphere of pure and applied sciences is insuring and will insure the planned growth of the country's scientific and technical potential without causing grave social consequences. The training of skilled manpower and-retraining where necessary, are regulated in a planned fashion.

In the list of conjectures of the so-called "Sovietologists"--anti-Soviets who pass themselves off as experts on Soviet society--one of the first places is occupied by the "forecasting of the energy crisis" which the Soviet Union can allegedly expect in the next decade. There is no need to speak of the fact that this is a typical mechanical transferral to alien ground of phenomena inherent in the western Countries-where a fierce energy crisis has been ragins for several years now.

As distinct from the Western countries, there exists in the Soviet Union a reliable fuel and energy base which was prudently created in the postwar years and the necessary conditions exist for the further buildup and rational use of energy resources. For this purpose an effective restructuring of the country's fuel balance is being implemented through the building of high-capacity thermal electric power stations which make use of unique and, moreover, cheap deposits of power station coal from new coal basins which have been prospected well in advance. Our country has embarked on building a large number of nuclear power stations with thermal reactors. A special sector--atomic machine building--has been created.

"Sovietologists" are furthermore predicting that a fall in harvest yields will take place in the 1980s and that an acute grain shortage and other incomprehensible calamities will set in. [paragraph continues]

Any competent person who has added up the volume of capital investment made in agriculture over the last 10 years and more (over R320 billion, which is 3.4 times greater than the volume of all capital investment throughout the preceding almost 50 years of the Soviet country's existence), the long-term growth trend which has become established in the average annual volume of gross output, and the steps which have been taken to strengthen the material-technical base of agriculture--the acceleration of the pace of mechanization, chemicalization and land reclamation--will reach the only correct conclusion: The conditions for a new increase in agricultural efficiency have been created and are continuing to improve. It is especially important to stress that production specialization and concentration on the basis of interfarm cooperation and agroindustrial integration will make it possible to carry out further socialization of labor and production and to bring about the development of the sector on this basis.

The decline of entire regions, the desertion of many populated points and the bankruptcy of the cities are characteristic of the capitalist economy.

The creation and development of a number of territorial-production complexes is in full swing here, especially in the east of the country. These include the West Siberian, Bratsk, Pavlodar-Ekibastuz, Orenburg, Lower Kama and others. The new production complexes will augment the country's economic potential even further.

As distinct from the capitalist world, where a "ruin your neighbor policy" prevails and where rivalry and enmity between countries exist, the Soviet Union's relations with the fraternal socialist countries are built in accordance with the laws of friendship and cooperation. The course toward the joint solution of economic tasks is yielding beneficial results.

Does all that we have said mean that no problems exist in our country? Of course not. Where there is life there are also problems and unresolved questions but the crux of the matter is that there are illusory "problems"--the figment of the distorted imagination of socialism's enemies--and there are real problems which arise in the course of the development of Soviet society. The essence of the answer to this question also lies in the fact that the real rather than illusory problems existing in our country are connected with the growth of the society of mature socialism. But the problems in the capitalist world are the result of the crisis of the entire postwar structure of capitalism. In other words, the emergence of problems, their nature, the ways and possibilities of solving them, and also their consequences differ fundamentally in the socialist and capitalist societies.

The problems currently being tackled by the Soviet economy include above all the implementation of the long-term aims of the development of Soviet society, scientific prevision and concern for the future. It is in the interests of achieving this great goal that the Soviet economy is now implementing the task of improving planning and intensifying the impact of the economic mechanism on improving production efficiency and work quality. The intensification of the role of the state plan with the simultaneous broadening of labor collectives' rights is the most important lever for a further economic upsurge.

A serious problem facing our country is the impending fall in the influx of manpower in the period 1981-1985. This problem itself has arisen, as is known, not as a result of the economic factor but as a consequences of the death of 20 million Soviet people in the years of World War II. It is growing more acute in connection with the implementation of great long-term plans drawn up for the period up to 1990. But thanks to its foresight, the Soviet country is to a considerable degree prepared for the solution of this problem. Incidentally, the existence of this problem will stimulate scientific and technical progress and production intensification and at the same time it will not cause grave social consequences or require sacrifices by the population.

Finally there are other problems engendered by causes lying outside the confines of the socialist system. They are the result of the arms race unleashed by the United States and by other NATO countries on U.S. instructions. The arms race is, of course, giving us certain worries insofar as it is essential to maintain our country's defense capability at the necessary level. But, as Comrade L.I. Brezhnev declared, "we spend on defense only as much as is absolutely necessary. No less but no more either."

The Soviet economy's potential is more than adequate for it to be able to respond to the challenge from the adversaries of peaceful coexistence and from the irresponsible propagandists of antidetente. The balanced reduction of arms spending and even more, a disarmament agreement would make money and physical and manpower resources available for other things. As is known, this is precisely what the Soviet Union and the entire community of socialist states are striving for.

The implementation of the ambitious plans of socialist building aimed at guaranteeing the future of our country, steadily raising the people's living standards and insuring peace and security require much effort and money. The laboring way of life is the natural and inalienable quality of free people in a free socialist society--the guarantee of future achievements of the Soviet country in the interests of all mankind.

UN DISCUSSION ON PEOPLE'S RIGHT TO SELF-DETERMINATION NOTED

LD171130 Moscow TASS in English 1047 GMT 17 Oct 79 LD

[Excerpts] New York, October 17, TASS--The task of universal realization of the peoples' right to self-determination, the earliest attainment of independence by colonial countries and peoples' calls for new energetic efforts of the international community. The forces of imperialism, neo-colonialism and racism by no means gave up their attempts to suppress the national liberation struggle waged by peoples. This is the opinion of the participants in the discussion at the Third Committee (Social, Humanitarian and Cultural) which discusses the problem: "The significance of universal realization of the peoples' right to self-determination and the earliest granting of independence to colonial countries and peoples for the effective guarantee and observance of human rights".

The Soviet Union invariably advocates universal realization of the peoples' rights to self-determination, the earliest granting of independence to all colonial peoples, said the USSR's representative Domna Komarova. The development and the deepening of the process of relaxation of international tension, which, despite all designs of its opponents, remains the dominant tendency in the world arena, and creates favourable conditions for successful solution of the objective of struggle for elimination of the vestiges of colonialism.

KORIONOV SCORES U.S. NAVAL MANEUVERS POLICY IN CARIBBEAN

LD171429 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 15 Oct 79 p 5 LD

[Vitaliy Korionov "Commentator's Column" entitled "Tension Is Being Whipped Up"]

[Text] A squadron of the operational unit of the U.S. Atlantic fleet, en route for Cuba, is plowing the waves of the Caribbean. It comprises 16 warships, including the latest U.S. helicopter-carrier, the USS Nassau. A force of Marines landed on the military base at Guantanamo, occupied by the United States. At the same time, U.S. Navy and Air Force exercises are being held in the Caribbean.

The new militarist actions are being depicted by the Pentagon as normal military exercises, but this camouflaging does not deceive anyone. This latest show of muscle is being undertaken by the U.S. military at a time when the Soviet Union and the other socialist countries have displayed new major peaceful initiatives aimed at improving the international situation.

The hawks in the United States are striving to hinder this process. They grab at any pretext to hinder the cause of detente and to create tension wherever possible. And this week the Caribbean basin has become the arena of such dangerous activity. But the militarists are encroaching not only on peace: In their sights are the freedom and independence of the peoples of the Caribbean region.

The role of socialist Cuba in the world arena has been growing from year to year. Its voice is being heard with more force in the United Nations and the nonalined movement. At the same time notable changes are occurring in other countries of this region--the revolution in Nicaragua was victorious, and Grenada, Jamaica, Guyana and a number of other countries in Latin America are adopting an independent foreign-political position.

U.S. imperialism is making efforts to halt the inexorable process by brandishing the big stick. However, this is not an indication of strength but of the weakness by the suppressors of freedom.

Washington's decision to increase its military presence in the Caribbean, said Ortega, commander in chief of the Sandinist People's Army of Nicaragua, poses a serious threat to the cause of peace throughout the world. Such a step, he says, is aimed at the mounting liberation struggle in the region and throughout the continent.

Bishop, the prime minister of Grenada, called the increasing U.S. military presence in the Caribbean basin "an attempt to aggravate tension in the region, and to revive the cold war." Similar assessments of Washington's actions are made by Venezuela, Guyana and other area countries.

The inspirers of the positions-of-strength policy can in no way realize that the times of gunboat diplomacy are gone. The peoples, including those of Latin America, are ever more confidently taking their destinies in their own hands. Saber-rattling is powerless to stop this irreversible process.

CARTER'S CHICAGO SPEECH 'MAINLY ATTEMPTS TO DISTORT CUBA'S POLICY'

LD171732 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1608 GMT 17 Oct 79 LD

[Text] Moscow, 17 October, TASS--U.S. President J. Carter, embarking, in effect, on an election campaign, has delivered a speech in a Chicago suburb which he devoted mainly to attempts to distort the policy pursued by the Government of Cuba.

The president asserted that the United States is not preparing to act in a hostile manner toward the Cuban people, but that allegedly the Cubans' domestic and foreign policy is making "official recognition of that country by the United States" very difficult, and that, moreover, Cuba "is totally subject to the Soviet Government." The absurdity of these assertions is so obvious that it is difficult to understand how a politician could resort to them. Cuba is an independent, sovereign state with its own legally elected govenment that is recognized throughout the world. It is well-known who is trying to put obstacles in the way of the Cuban Republic. For 19 years now the United States has been conducting an economic blockade of Cuba and has been maintaining on Cuba, against its peoples will a military base at Guantanamo, and it is presently stepping up tension throughout the whole Caribbean basin. After all, doesn't the landing of an assault force on the territory of a sovereign state, which was carried out simultaneously with Carter's Chicago speech, testify to this? The President stated that the Cubans are keeping a large number of troops in other countries, where, as he said, "they have absolutely no business." And on this basis the President calls Cuba "the most militarized country on earth." It is right to ask the President of the United States: Why on earth does Washington consider it possible to keep its armed forces throughout the world--some 500,000 soldiers in 114 countries--while the President calls into doubt the right of other states, on the basis of agreements and at the request of lawful governments, to have a small number of military personnel in these countries? Apparently some people in the United States do not like the fact that this aid is directed against imperialism and neocolonialism and allows sovereign states to defend their national independence.

The President went on to state, without any substantiation, that Cuba interferes in the affairs of sovereign countries and cited the example of Puerto Rico, stating at the same time that the United States would like to include Puerto Rico in the United States as the 51st state, or, in other words, to annex Puerto Rico. So, the question arises, who is interfering in the internal affairs of the Puerto Rican people? The answer, it seems, is clear.

The President stated that there are "hundreds and even thousands (!) of political prisoners" in Cuba, and that as long as such a situation exists the United States would not recognize Cuba. The hackeneyed theme of "political prisoners" in various countries is dragged out by American politicans each time they need to avoid constructive steps leading to detente and to the development of international cooperation. Apparently the myth of "political prisoners" in Cuba is being used for these aims now. Concerning recognition of the Republic of Cuba, it has been recognized by the overwhelming majority of the states of the world. From its own experience the Soviet Union knows that American imperialist circles for many years did not wish to recognize the Soviet socialist state, but this had no effect at all on its existence and development. And now, recognition or nonrecognition depands to an even lesser extent the "benevolence" of Washington than was the case in the thirties.

One would also like to mention one more point in the President's speech. J. Carter declared to his electors the necessity of increasing the U.S. military budget, which is in direct contradiction to his preelection promise 3 years ago. The President said: "I am not prepared to ask forgiveness for the claims made for defense in the budget..." Concerning the sharp increase in the U.S. military budget for 1980, J. Carter said: "A most important duty resting on me as President is to guarantee the security of our country. This is above everything else, above inflation, employment, energy, agriculture..." But, as is known, no one is threatening U.S. security. It is characteristic that this statement by the President did not find support from his listeners and, as correspondents report, the majority of questions were actually concerned with economic and social problems, the burdens which have been placed on the American people.

FIRST PLENARY MEETING OF SINO-SOVIET DELEGATIONS HELD

LD171452 Moscow TASS in English 1448 GMT 17 Oct 79 LD

["Soviet-Chinese Talks"--TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow, October 17, TASS--The first plenary meeting of the government delegations of the USSR and PRC was held here today.

PRAVDA CITES CCP DECISION ON BOOSTING PRC AGRICULTURE

LD170947 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 11 Oct 79 p 5 LD

[TASS Report: "On the Situation in China's Rural Areas"]

[Text] Beijing, 10 October--"The CCP Central Committee decision on certain questions relating to accelerated agricultural development" adopted at the Fourth CCP Central Committee Plenum held at the end of September was published in the Chinese press the other day. It states that after successfully developing in the early years of the PRC's existence the growth of Chinese agriculture has "slowed" over the last 20 years. The reasons for this situation, the decision points out, are "insufficient social and political stability in Chinese society" throughout the period, "incorrect political directives," which undermined the peasants, labor activeness and the "feeble and ineffective assistance given to agriculture by the state." It emphasizes that in the years 1958-1962 Chinese agriculture met with serious failures and difficulties as a result of "shortcomings in work and serious natural disasters."

It is a well-known fact that it was in 1958 that the "Great Leap Forward" and the creation of people's communes were begun.

From 1957 on, the decision states, the increase in the grain harvest failed to outstrip population growth. The total amount of grain harvested per capita remained at the 1957 level, while the area of land under cultivation during this period even shrank. The average per capita income of China's rural population is now just over 70 yuan a year, while in one-fourth of all production teams it is less than 50 yuan. Production teams in many areas "cannot even effect simple reproduction."

Among measures to increase agricultural output in the country, the decision points out the need to insure political stability in rural areas, to eliminate wage-leveling and introduce the practice of payment according to labor, to give collectives economic independence and to increase state capital investment in agriculture. The decision reaffirms the peasants' right to have small private plots and to engage in subsidiary farming. Rural markets are allowed to operate.

AIMS OF SECRETARY BROWN'S FAR EAST TOUR VIEWED

LD171726 Moscow World Service in English 1300 GMT 17 Oct 79 LD

[Text] The American Defense Secretary Harold Brown, now touring Far Eastern countries, is currently in South Korea from where he is to go on to Japan. Commentary is by our observer Vladimir Korolev.

Judging by press reports Harold Brown's talks in Seoul and Tokyo will cover two major areas: What new steps should be taken to establish a militarist alliance between the United States, Japan and the South Korean regime and how to build up American arms in the Far East. The American military presence in the region is impressive as it is. The 40,000 troops stationed in South Korea are armed with the most modern types of weapons, nuclear weapons among them. And the arsenal keeps increasing, contrary to Washington's recent promise to withdraw its troops from that country. As it turned out, the much advertised promise was nothing but a propaganda move. Another Far Eastern country where the number of American troops is growing all the time is Japan. The 140 United States bases and military installations there are manned by a total of 50,000 troops. Ships of the United States 7th Fleet are constantly cruising off the Japanese and South Korean coasts.

Political observers feel that the Washington-Tokyo alliance has now entered a new stage, its two typical features being an expansion of military cooperation between the two countries and deeper Japanese involvement in the orbit of American hegemonistic ambitions in the Far East. What is significant, Beijing fully approves of Washington's military efforts in that vast region of the world. This has been noted in particular by the well-informed Washington POST. Vice President Walter Mondale, too, has pointed out in a statement following his recent visit to Beijing that the United States and China have parallel interests in Asia. The exact nature of these interests is laid bare by what the two countries have been doing to establish their domination in Asia. Both have been ignoring the rights of nations, the developing nations first and foremost, a policy that destabilizes the international situation and leads to the emergence of more tension spots. This attitude is dictated by their aims.

Nothing promotes hegemonistic ambitions more than the pumping up of international tensions and the creation of explosive situations in various regions. As the press in many countries comment on Harold Brown's visit to South Korea and Japan, observers are pointing out that it precedes his talks with Chinese leaders due to be held in Beijing late this year. The Japanese newspaper AKAHATA believes that the aim of the forthcoming talks is to include Beijing as a fourth participant in the Washington-Tokyo-Seoul alliance. Such acts, the paper says, are obviously spearheaded against peace and security in the Far East.

U.S. GENERAL JONES STOPS OFF IN TOKYO EN ROUTE TO SEOUL

LD162310 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 2105 GMT 16 Oct 79 LD

[Text] General Jones, chairman of the U.S. Joint Chiefs of Staff, stopped off in the Japanese capital on his way from Washington to Seoul and devoted his short stay in Tokyo to scaring Japanese leaders with the mythical Soviet threat. At a meeting with Foreign Minister Sonoda he in particular openly demanded Japan's participation in confronting the increasing military might of the Soviet Union. At the American general's meeting with leaders of the National Self-Defense Agency and with Takeda, chairman of the Joint Staff Council of Japan, discussions took place concerning concrete questions of stepping up Japanese-American military cooperation.

JAPANESE MEDIA'S MILITARIST, ANTI-SOVIET PROPAGANDA ASSAILED

LD161515 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 13 Oct 79 p 5 LD

[O. Kitsenko article under the rubric "International Notes": "Propaganda Shows"]

[Text] World public attention is being attracted by the noisy propaganda campaigns which are being organized one after another in Japan. Their tendentious, malicious nature is arousing concern. The long-since exposed myth of the "Soviet military threat" is being inflated, a distorted picture of the situation in the Indochinese countries, particularly in the People's Kampuchea, is being created, publicity is being given to Japanese diplomacy's plans aimed at interfering in the internal affairs of this country, and socialist Vietnam is being discredited.

The publication of anti-Soviet and anticommunist materials is growing rapidly. According to figures in the newspaper NIHON TO SOVIET, in 1977 8 Japanese journals published 6 articles about the "Soviet military threat" while in 1978 the figure was 47 articles. At the same time extensive militarist propaganda is being conducted: The Japanese-U.S. military alliance is being praised and reportages are being produced on military maneuvers which are now being organized jointly with the Americans, and moreover on ever increasing scales.

It is perfectly obvious that the aim of these campaigns is to sow mistrust among the peoples of the vast East Asian region, to condition Japanese public opinion in a spirit of anti-Sovietism, anticommunism, militarism and expansion, that is, in the spirit which determined Japan's policy during World War II. Now they are seeking again to persuade the Japanese people that their security is threatened and it is therefore essential to build up the "self-defense forces," which are now being developed into large-scale modern armed forces, counter to the provisions of the Japanese Constitution.

The poisoners of public awareness have at their disposal a powerful machine for the mass brainwashing of the population. The Japanese newspapers' daily circulation totals 64 million copies. The lion's share belongs to the powerful concerns publishing the newspapers ASAHI, MAINICHI and YOMIURI. The newspaper concerns are whole empires with enormous financial assets. They use sophisticated electronic equipment and their own aircraft.

Television also exerts a tremendous influence on the Japanese people's awareness. There are now 28 million television sets. According to a poll carried out by the Japanese Radio Broadcasting Corporation (NHK) the average Japanese family spends 3 hours 19 minutes watching television on weekdays and almost an hour more on Sunday.

It should be noted that the country's government does not stint funds for propagandizing its policy. The Japanese Communists' newspaper AKAHATA recently recalled that in 1960 the country's budget earmarked 100 million yen for propaganda purposes while this year the figure is 12.7 billion yen.

The Japanese press has frequently written about the existence of close ties between the government and the country's monopolized mass information media. The "soldiering" of the monopolist press with the ruling circles, as this phenomenon is called in Japan, naturally deprives journalists of their "independence" and "freedom," as the newspaper THE JAPAN TIMES accurately noted in the article "Press and Politics in Japan." Journalists who link themselves closely with the government and the monopolies either write or ignore just what they are required to. These relations between politicians and reporters, THE JAPAN TIMES summed up, are a symbiosis which both sides find useful--admittedly at the public's expense. You cannot put it more frankly than that.

Here is just one specific example of this "symbiosis." The number of journalists closely linked with the National Defense Agency is now growing rapidly, according to NIHON TO SOVIET. It is they who play out the anti-Soviet and other propaganda shows planned there and are stoking militarist hysteria in the country. Even the Japanese Foreign Ministry, the KYODO news agency reported recently, has been obliged to express regret at the propaganda campaign mounted by the National Defense Agency on the subject of the "Soviet military threat," fearing the further deterioration of relations with the Soviet land.

The country's progressive public circles, above all the Japanese Communist Party, constantly draw their people's attention to the danger of anti-Soviet militarist propaganda to Japanese national interests and the cause of peace and good-neighborliness in Asia and are resolutely demanding an end to it.

SIBERIAN, JAPANESE CITY MAYORS MEET IN ULAN-UDE

LD171537 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 8 Oct 79 p 4 LD

[TASS report: "Contacts Strengthened"]

[Text] Ulan-Ude, 7 October--Questions of the further galvanization of action in the struggle for peace and the development of good-neighborly relations and economic and cultural ties are being discussed at the seventh meeting of East Siberian and Far Eastern gorispolkom chairmen and mayors of the cities of Japan's western seaboard which opens here today. Those taking part in the meeting are also exchanging experience of housing construction and municipal services for the population. There will be an exchange of opinions on questions of child protection.

ANNIVERSARY OF USSR-DPRK RELATIONS MARKED

SK170235 Moscow in Korean to Korea 1130 GMT 12 Oct 79 SK

[Dmitriyev commentary]

[Text] October 12 is the 31st anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between the USSR and the DPRK. The USSR was the first to recognize the Leninist state of Korea, which was founded on the basis of the will of the people following the liberation from the Japanese colonial ruling system by the Soviet troops.

The basis of the relations between the USSR and the DPRK which (?were officially established in October 1948) is the firm principle of socialist internationalism--the principle of complete equality, respect for sovereignty, nonintervention in internal affairs, and mutual assistance and (?support). Based on this principle, the USSR and the DPRK concluded the economic, cultural cooperation agreement (?in the spring of 1949). The agreement was the first equal and reciprocal agreement concluded in the history of Korea. Ever since, (?in various fields), there have been close contacts between the peoples of the two countries. The treaty of friendship, cooperation and mutual assistance signed in 1961 has become a firm foundation on which USSR-DPRK relations can be (?further developed). [passage indistinct]

(?Events since the conclusion of the treaty) have shown eloquently that this historic document agrees with the interests of the peoples of the USSR and the DPRK and serves as an important factor in preserving peace and security in the Far East. Today we can note with satisfaction that the overall cooperation between the USSR and the DPRK is being expanded and deepened.

The mutual visits and direct contacts between (?the party and state leaders) of the two countries have now become a good tradition. (?Last summer,) a KWP delegation led by Comrade Kim Yong-nam, member of the Political Committee of the KWP Central Committee and secretary of the Party Central Committee, paid a visit to the USSR. In Moscow the delegation (?had meetings) on many issues related to the USSR-DPRK relations and pending international problems. On the occasion, it was urged that (?the mutual assistance and cooperation) between the CPSU and the KWP be expanded further, based on the principle of Marxism-Leninism and proletarian internationalism.

USSR-DPRK economic relations are being actively developed. (?Soviet machinery and equipment) has been offered to some 60 industrial enterprises and other facilities of the national economy, which constitute the backbone of the national economy of the DPRK. In addition, by joint efforts of technicians of the two countries, a series of enterprises is being built up, the capacity of the (?Pukchang) thermal power plant is being increased, and the Kimchaek iron works is being modernized. Trades between the USSR and the DPRK is being effectively expanded. The trade volume between the two countries, which was (?four million) rubles in 1948 reached to R338 million in 1978 and it will exceed R500 million this year, according to a forecast. Scientific and technical cooperation between the USSR and the DPRK is being (?successfully) developed and frequent contacts are being made in cultural, educational and tourist fields. [passage indistinct]

The USSR, loyal to the principle of socialist cooperation, is invariably and constantly supporting the DPRK in the international community. Today, the socialist Korea has diplomatic relations with some 90 [as heard] world nations and is an equal member of 140 international organizations. The USSR is completely and (?steadily) supporting the efforts of the KWP and the government of the republic to ease tensions on the Korean Peninsula and to attain the reunification of the nation in a peaceful and democratic way. [passage indistinct] On the 31st anniversary of the establishment of USSR-DPRK diplomatic relations, the Soviet people wish their Korean friends (?new) success in the socialist construction and express their belief that the traditional friendship and cooperation between our two peoples will further develop and consolidate for the victory of the socialist and communist cause.

MONGOLIA'S TSEDENBAL VISITS SOVIET TROOPS IN GDR

LD180837 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 10 Oct 79 p 3 LD

[Correspondent Col V. Nagornyy dispatch: "Meeting with Tankmen"]

[Text] Group of Soviet fordes in Germany--Yu. Tsedenbal, first secretary of the Mongolian People's Revolutionary Party Central Committee and chairman of the Mongolian People's Great Hural Presidium, and other Mongolian comrades in the Mongolian party and government delegation visiting the GDR for the republic's 30th anniversary were the guests of soldiers of the Berdichevskiy Guards tank regiment which bears the name of Mongolian national hero, Suhe-Baatar. The Mongolian friends were welcomed to the regiment and accompanied by Army General Ye. Ivanovskiy, commander in chief of the Group of Soviet Forces in Germany, and Col Gen I. Mednikov, member of the Military Council and chief of the Political Directorate. Comrade Yu. Tsedenbal addressed a meeting in the unit mess. He wished the guards tankmen new successes in military work. A large group of soldiers were awarded Mongolian medals under a Mongolian people's Great Hural Presidium decree. They included Guards Lt Col B. Maksimishin, Guards Maj I. Belous, Guards Snr Lt V. Kozlov, members of the Revolutsionnaya Mongoliya tank crew, and other soldiers.

PONOMAREV MEETS WITH SRI LANKA CP OFFICIALS

LD180602 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 2050 GMT 17 Oct 79 LD

[Text] A meeting took place at the CPSU Central Committee between Ponomarev, candidate member of the Politburo and secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, Ulyanovskiy, deputy head of the International Department of the CPSU Central Committee, and Keuneman, chairman of the Communist Party of Sri Lanka, and [name indistinct], secretary of the Central Committee. They discussed the present international situation, the international communist movement, and other issues of mutual interest.

NEPALESE PRIME MINISTER DISCUSSES TIES WITH USSR

LD160929 Moscow Pravda in Russian 8 Oct 79 p 5 LD

[TASS report: "Katmandu: Positions Close"]

[Text] Nepal adheres to the principles of nonalinement and opposes colonialism, neocolonialism, imperialism and racism, Surya Bahadur Thapa, prime minister of the Kingdom of Nepal, has stated. In a talk with Soviet journalists he expressed the hope that the recent conference of nonalined heads of state and government in Havana would give new impetus to the movement in the struggle for further cohesion among developing countries and for peace and the relaxation of international tension.

The prime minister expressed satisfaction at the present state of Nepalese-Soviet relations. He emphasized the USSR's great contribution to developing education and building Nepal's national economy. We view the maintenance of good relations with the USSR as an important aspect of our policy, the prime minister said.

Surya Bahadur Thapa noted the proximity of Nepalese and Soviet positions on the most important questions of the present day, concerning the relaxation of international tension and the nonproliferation of nuclear weapons. Nepal also pursues a policy of peace, and in this respect our two states act together in the international arena.

IZVESTIYA CITES NEPALESE REBUTTAL OF 'SOVIET SUBVERSION' CLAIMS

LD171249 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 14 Oct 79 Morning Edition p 4 LD

[TASS report: "THE STATESMAN Newspaper's Vain Attempts"]

[Text] In connection with the recent visit to India by King Birendra of Nepal the Indian newspaper THE STATESMAN published a lengthy item which was not, however, marked by particular complexity of thought. Once again the newspaper is frightening the reader with "Soviet interference"...this time in Asian states' affairs. The piquancy of the situation lies in the fact that THE STATESMAN attributed its own maxims and fabrications on this score to King Birendra, in the clear hope that it would be easy in this way to pass off as truth a fantasy on the "subversive activity of Soviet agents against Nepal."

A public rejection of THE STATESMAN's unsavory attempts was made a few days ago by Nepalese Foreign Minister K. B. Shahi, calling the item "tendentious and ill-intentioned." Shahi stated that THE STATESMAN newspaper's obvious aim is to make India and Nepal quarrel with the USSR, with which both countries have "established excellent relations." THE STATESMAN's fabrications, Shahi noted, are an example of "irresponsible journalism and are not even worth commenting on."

Certainly, as they say, comment is superfluous here.

KAMPUCHEA'S PEN SOVAN LEAVES MOSCOW AFTER STOPOVER

LD171545 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 16 Oct 79 p 4 LD

[TASS report: "Departure for Home"]

[Text] Pen Sovan, vice president of the People's Revolutionary Council, defense minister and commander in chief of the Armed Forces of the People's Republic of Kampuchea, who made a stopover in Moscow, left for home 15 October.

THAI AMBASSADOR MEETS WITH SRV FOREIGN MINISTRY OFFICIAL

LD161834 Moscow TASS in English 1804 GMT 16 Oct 79 LD

[Text] Hanoi, October 16, TASS--Independent united Vietnam has established relations of friendship and cooperation with Thailand. But Thailand's Government now plays into the hand of China and smears Vietnam, Kampuchea and Laos, said a spokesman of the Foreign Ministry of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam at a meeting with Thailand's ambassador in the Socialist Republic of Vietnam. He recalled that Thailand had rendered active support to American imperialists in the war of aggression against Vietnam and emphasized: If Thailand will again take a hostile stand towards the peoples of Indochina this will bring no benefit to the Thai people and to the cause of peace and stability in South-east Asia. On its part, the Government of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam reaffirms its invariable policy of constant striving for consolidation and development of the relations of friendship, cooperation and goodneighborliness with Thailand and other South-east Asian countries on the basis of equality and mutual respect, said the spokesman of the Foreign Ministry of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam.

PRAVDA COMMENTS O[illegible]OCIALIST DEVELOPMENT IN LAOS

LD100852 Moscow TA[illegible] in English 0815 GMT 10 Oct 79 LD

["PRAVDA correspondent About Laos"--TASS headline]

[Excerpt] Moscow, October 10, TASS--"The pulse of the ancient country of a million elephants is beating with every passing day more confident and clearer. The People's Democratic Republic of Laos has made its historical choice in favour of socialism", writes in PRAVDA Yevegeniy Fadeyev, its Vientiane correspondent. The correspondent was told by Sisana Sisan, member of the Central Committee of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party, minister of propaganda, information, culture and tourism, that despite the numerous difficulties and the vestiges of the past, the Lao people, under the guidance of the People's Revolutionary Party, with the assistance and support of the socialist community and the world progressive public, continues to implement radical transformations and is building a material technical base of socialism. All the attempts by internal and external enemies to slow down the construction of a new life in the republic have been frustrated by the people and the army. The correspondent writes that at present there are more than 500 state enterprises in Laos. The devastated economy is being rehabilitated. More than 70,000 various buildings have been built. A broad program of building roads and erecting irrigation structures is being implemented.

The Lao People's Revolutionary Party and the government give much attention to developing party and the government give much attention to developing culture, education and medical services. An active struggle is being waged against the social ulcers of the past. There are successes in the field of education. Last year alone 400,000 people learned to read and write. The output of printed matter is being increased. In 1978 the population bought over one million various books, 400,000 magazines and two million newspapers.

IZVESTIYA LAUDS RESULTS OF BREZHNEV VISIT TO GDR

LD171647 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 13 Oct 79 Morning Edition p 1 LD

[Editorial: "The Mighty Force of Socialist Solidarity"]

[Text] Fraternal cooperation is developing steadily among the countries of the great socialist community. True to the behests of Lenin, who pointed out the tremendous significance of the unity and closest cooperation among the peoples who have embarked on the path of socialism, the communist and workers parties and peoples of the fraternal countries are constantly concerned to deepen and broaden their comprehensive ties.

This was confirmed with renewed force by the Soviet party and government delegation's visit to the GDR. The CPSU Central Committee Politburo, USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium and USSR Council of Ministers express complete satisfaction with the results of the official friendly visit to the GDR by the USSR party and government delegation headed by L.I. Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium. The Soviet delegation's visit to participate in the republic's 30th anniversary celebrations was an event of outstanding significance both in terms of further strengthening the cooperation between the CPSU and SED and between the USSR and GDR and from the viewpoint of the vital interests of peace and international security. The exceptionally cordial reception accorded the Soviet delegation in the GDR turned into a demonstration of the indissolubility of the fraternal ties uniting the peoples of the USSR and GDR.

At the talks between Comrade L.I. Brezhnev and the Soviet delegation members, on the one hand, and E. Honecker, general secretary of the SED Central Committee and chairman of the GDR State Council, and the GDR party and state leadership, on the other, there was an exchange of opinions on all the most important aspects of cooperation between the two countries and the main directions of its long-term improvement and deepening were determined. The combination of the two countries' economic and scientific and technical potentials for the joint resolution of major economic tasks has already borne substantial fruit. The program of production specialization and cooperation between the USSR and GDR through 1990 signed during the visit will undoubtedly impart new impetus to this important matter.

The talks' participants expressed determination to continue making an all-round contribution to strengthening the socialist community's might and cohesion and increasing the effectiveness of cooperation between the fraternal parties and states. The Soviet Union and GDR will actively participate in implementing the comprehensive program of socialist economic integration and the long-term targeted cooperation programs within the CEMA framework. Together with the other Warsaw Pact states, our countries will improve that collective organization, which is an instrument for coordinating the socialist countries' foreign policy and reliably serves the interests of defending socialism and safeguarding peace and stability in international relations. "The experience of our cooperation in all spheres," Comrade L.I. Brezhnev stressed at the ceremonial session in Berlin, "is a persuasive example of the invincible force of socialist solidarity and it is our common will that it remain so in the future."

Having exchanged opinions on topical international problems, the talks' participants noted that despite all the complexity and contradictoriness of the present-day situation the relaxation of tension is the dominant trend in world politics. To a significant degree this is the result of the socialist countries' vigorous actions and consistent course toward improving the international political climate. The USSR and the GDR, the joint communique says, will continue to work hard to deepen the process of relaxation of tension, extend it to all parts of the world and organize long-term mutually advantageous cooperation among states with different social systems. This kind of cooperation can develop successfully only on the basis of complete equality, strict observance of the principle of noninterference in one another's internal affairs and mutual respect for independence and sovereignty.

Life shows that the key problem of the present-day international situation is the limitation and ending of the arms race and the transition to real disarmament. The peoples insistently demand the adoption of effective steps to supplement political detente with military detente. Both sides expressed the hope that the entry into force of the SALT II treaty will pave the way for the further limitation and reduction of strategic arms.

An issue of growing urgency at the moment is that of the plans the NATO countries are elaborating for the deployment in Western Europe of new American medium-range nuclear missile weapons which they intend to target on the socialist states' territory the United States and the FRG are playing a dangerous game in displaying particular persistence in promoting these plans. A new round in the arms race would be a severe blow to detente and would ultimately increase the risk of nuclear war. The talks' participants urge the NATO countries to abandon their plans. It is not yet too late to halt the dangerous development of events. At the moment there is a real possibility of considerably easing confrontation on the European Continent. This possibility is associated with the Soviet Union's important new peace initiative.

The CPSU Central Committee Politburo, the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium and USSR Council of Ministers deem it of fundamental importance that the new Soviet initiative on problems of military detente and disarmament set forth in L.I. Brezhnev's Berlin speech has the full support of the GDR and the other fraternal socialist community countries. It was greeted with great interest among influential circles in many countries and strengthened the peoples' hopes of lasting peace.

The Soviet Union is prepared, as a gesture of good will, to unilaterally reduce in comparison with the present level the number of medium-range nuclear weapons deployed in the western part of the USSR on condition that no additional medium-range nuclear weapons are deployed in Western Europe. The USSR has decided to reduce the strength of its forces in central Europe. Over a period of a year about 20,000 Soviet servicemen, 1,000 tanks and other military equipment will be withdrawn from GDR territory. The Soviet Union is ready, in collaboration with other countries, to implement extra measures to strengthen trust and reduce the danger of the outbreak of war.

The NATO countries' leaders have a historic responsibility. The peoples are waiting to see whether they respond to the Soviet Union's good example with constructive steps or prefer to plunge Europe into a new and dangerous stage of the arms race.

The sides discussed other topical international issues in Berlin. The Soviet Union and the GDR express unshakable internationalist solidarity with the peoples of Vietnam, Laos and Kampuchea in their struggle against hegemonist and imperialist pressure and for peace and security in Southeast Asia. [paragraph continues]

The talks' participants state that they are firmly on the side of the Arab peoples who reject the separate deals and they advocate all-embracing just settlements and lasting peace in the Near East. Both countries uphold the right of the liberated states of Asia, Africa and Latin America to decide their own destinies and to defend their independence and sovereignty against all encroachments from outside and they support the developing countries' demands for the liquidation of all forms of neo-colonialist exploitation and discrimination and for the restructuring of international economic relations on a just, equal and democratic basis.

Tremendous enthusiasm attended the GDR 30th anniversary celebrations. The anniversary was an impressive review of the German working people's accomplishments under the leadership of the SED in all spheres of social life--in the development of socialist democracy, the upsurge of the economy, the flourishing of science and culture and the improvement of the masses' well-being. By consistently pursuing the policy of peace and defense of the people's right to free and independent development, the GDR has earned great international prestige and its voice carries increasing weight in European and world affairs. "In close alliance with the Soviet Union and the other fraternal countries and together with all progressive forces of the world," Comrade E. Honecker said in his Berlin speech, "we are continuing consistently to advance along the tried and tested path. This path, which serves people's welfare and the happiness of the people, determines all our efforts. It serves the cause of peace and socialism."

Socialist Germany has entered its fourth decade full of optimism and confidence. The most characteristic trait of socialist society is its ambitions for the future. All the GDR people's thoughts and deeds are now bound up with the solution of the tasks set forth by the Ninth SED Congress. The GDR is looking to the future. Its step is broad and its tread is sure. It is marching ahead in fraternal alliance with the USSR and all the socialist community countries. It is marching toward new accomplishments!

PRAVDA SURVEYS SOVIET-E. GERMAN RELATIONS

LD180947 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 16 Oct 79 p 5 LD

[Maj Podklyuchnikov "Commentator's Column": "Unbreakable Friendship"]

[Text] It is 30 years since the establishment of diplomatic relations between the Soviet Union and the GDR. The land of the soviets and the German worker-peasant state are linked by close friendly ties and fruitful cooperation. Moving evidence of the high level which these relations have reached was provided by the exceptionally cordial welcome recently given in the GDR to the Soviet party and government delegation headed by L.I. Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium.

For three decades now our states' close alliance forged by the CPSU and the SED has been serving the aims of peace and creation.

The Soviet Union and the German socialist state are confidently traveling the path of economic cooperation, pooling their efforts both within the CEMA framework and on a bilateral basis. An important new document governing our cooperation--a program of production specialization and collaboration between the USSR and the GDR through 1990--was signed in Berlin during the celebrations for the GDR's 30th anniversary. And this means that in the future the most complex problems of the two countries' economic development will be resolved still more successfully.

Soviet people value highly the fact that from the first days of its existence the GDR has consistently advocated strengthening peace. This has insured its high international prestige. In its difficult struggle for recognition in international law the GDR always had on its side the solidarity and support of the USSR and all other fraternal countries. By coordinating their foreign policy the socialist community states thwarted the attempted diplomatic blockade of the GDR. The German socialist state is now an equal participant in international life, and its voice is being heard increasingly weightily in European and world affairs.

Berlin, which was once considered the symbol of German militarism, has now become, as the GDR's capital, a city of peace. These days L.I. Brezhnev's Berlin speech containing a new Soviet initiative of exceptional importance is being widely discussed on all continents. Its aim is to open up the possibility of preventing a new takeoff of the arms race, to begin the transition to a path of real disarmament and to insure the preservation and augmentation of the fruits of detente and peaceful cooperation.

In the common struggle to build socialism and communism and for lasting peace the Soviet Union and the GDR are dependable, proven allies.

GDR'S HAGER MEETS WITH SUSLOV, DEMICHEV

LD172338 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1600 GMT 17 Oct 79 LD

[Text] A meeting took place today between Suslov, member of the Politburo and secretary of the CPSU Central Committee; Demichev, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and USSR minister of culture; and a GDR delegation led by Hager, member of the Politburo and secretary of the SED Central Committee, which is taking part in the days of culture of the German Democratic Republic, devoted to the 30th anniversary of its formation, which are in progress in the Soviet Union. On behalf of the delegation, Comrade Hager expressed heartfelt gratitude for the good organization and successful holding of the days of GDR culture in the Soviet Union, and noted the great cordiality with which Soviet people were receiving the representatives of the socialist culture and art of the German workers' and peasants' state. Comrade Suslov gave a high appraisal of the days of GDR culture being held in the USSR and stressed the great significance of cultural exchange for the spiritual enrichment and drawing together of the peoples of the two countries. The conversation, which passed in a warm, friendly atmosphere, touched upon certain questions concerning further cultural and scientific cooperation between the USSR and the GDR.

DEMICHEV, ZIMYANIN ATTEND GDR EMBASSY RECEPTION

LD172342 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1900 GMT 17 Oct 79 LD

[Summary] The GDR days of culture are continuing in the USSR. The Radio Symphony Orchestra gave a concert today at Moscow Conservatory. The German State Opera ended a tour at the Moscow Bolshoy Theater.

"Ott, the GDR ambassador in the Soviet Union, held a reception on the occasion of the days of culture. At the reception were Demichev, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and USSR minister of culture; Zimyanin, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee; leaders of state and public organizations and creative unions, and cultural figures. A delegation led by Hager, member of the Politburo and secretary of the SED Central Committee, was present."

ARMY PAPER HITS UK ARMED FORCES MODERNIZATION PLANS

LD171023 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 14 Oct 79 p 3 LD

[Col M. Ponomarev military-political review: "Arms Race in the Guise of Modernization"]

[Text] A few years ago the world's press carried a very remarkable photograph: a lady's elegantly coiffured head protruding from a tank hatch. That was how Margaret Thatcher, leader of the British Conservative Party, which was then in opposition, allowed herself to be photographed. In this extravagant way she demonstrated that the Conservatives allocated one of the chief places in their policies to armament problems and intended to devote paramount attention to them in the event of acceding to power.

It is not the custom of bourgeois politicians to fulfill election promises. But there is an exception to every rule. Recent events have shown that the Conservatives have remained true to their proclaimed policy. It is less than 6 months since they formed their government after winning a parliamentary majority in the election. But it is already perfectly clear that this government is leading Britain along the slippery and dangerous path of a sharp increase in military spending, the acceleration of militarist preparations and the intensification of the arms race. "We want Britain," British Defense Secretary F. Pym emphasized in one of his speeches, "to play its role fully in the program agreed on at the NATO summit conference in Washington last year--that is, in the program for a further buildup of the North Atlantic bloc's arms and armed forces. And, addressing the Conservative Party conference which has just ended in Blackpool, the head of Britain's military department again confirmed that the British Defense Ministry's budget, which in any case has already reached the astronomic sum of almost 10 billion pounds sterling, will be increased by a minimum of 3 percent a year in real terms at least through 1986. It was stated here that the British Government places its chief stake on strengthening the nuclear potential of both Britain itself and NATO as a whole.

The declaration was immediately followed by its practical implementation. At about the same time the London newspaper THE SUNDAY EXPRESS carried a report that the British Defense and Foreign Policy Committee headed by the prime minister had "adopted a firm decision to create a new fleet of submarines armed with American missiles." No official statement will be made on this score, it is true, the newspaper remarks, until "Mrs Thatcher sees President Carter in Washington later this year."

The decision of the British Defense and Foreign Policy Committee has a prehistory. The question of modernizing--or in fact renewing--Britain's nuclear arms had been discussed for quite a long time in political and military circles, as well as in the pages of the British press. Despite the trend toward easing international tension and strengthening detente, the discussion was not about reducing Britain's Armed Forces and the so-called "independent nuclear deterrent potential" but, on the contrary, about building up the British Army, Air Force and Navy and further improving nuclear weapons. The argument merely hinged on the specific details of these new militarist preparations, particularly on the question of whether to rearm British nuclear-powered submarines with American ballistic missiles or equip them with submarine-based cruise missiles of British design.

It follows from THE SUNDAY EXPRESS report that these arguments have been left behind. The choice has been made. The 4 nuclear-powered submarines of the Resolution class--each with 16 Polaris A-3 missiles--which now form the basis of Britain's strategic nuclear forces will be replaced by new nuclear-powered submarines of the Trafalgar class. These will each carry 16 Trident missiles with a considerably greater range than the Polaris missiles--up to 7,000 km--and with MIRVed warheads.

It should be noted here that, despite the Atlanticists' howls about the NATO countries' imaginary "defenselessness" in the face of the "Soviet military threat," Britain, like the other North Atlantic bloc members, also possesses other means of delivering nuclear warheads to their targets, including those on the Soviet Union's territory. These means include, in particular, 48 Vulcan V-2 medium strategic bombers with a range of up to 3,700 km which are at the disposal of the British Air Force in 6 squadrons of 8 machines each.

It must also be borne in mind that the British Isles continue to play the role of an "unsinkable American aircraft carrier off Europe's shores." In actual fact, a large number of FB-111 bombers and other aircraft capable of carrying nuclear weapons are deployed at American bases in Britain. Here, too, at Holy Loch (Scotland), is the forward base of nuclear-powered submarines carrying Polaris and Poseidon missiles. And now it is proposed to deploy on the territory of East Anglia a large part of the 464 American land-based cruise missiles which, along with Pershing-2 missiles, according to Pentagon and NATO plans, are very soon to constitute the basis of the so-called "Eurostrategic weapons."

Nevertheless, the most reactionary British circles and representatives of military-industrial monopolies, as well as press organs expressing their interests are continuing to urge the government to implement still more far-reaching plans to accelerate the arms race. A demand is being made, in particular, for a considerable increase in the strength of the British armed forces, even though this has already increased since the Conservatives came to power. It is proposed to purchase for the British army 200 Shir-2 tanks--a modification of the Chieftain tanks with strengthened armor and a 120 mm gun. Voices are to be heard advocating more rapid reequipping of the British Air Force--above all by means of various modifications of the Anglo-Italian-West German Tornado multirole aircraft. In all, the British Air Force intends to acquire 385 of these machines. There are also plans to further strengthen Britain's navy, although it has more than 70 large surface ships and holds second place in NATO after the United States in terms of might.

Britain already allocates 4.7 percent of its GNP for arms--a higher percentage than any other NATO state except the United States. However, the fact that it will take tremendous new expenditure to implement the rearmament plans does nothing to stop the supporters of modernizing and expanding the armed forces, who, according to the New York TIMES, are "headed by Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher, Foreign Secretary Lord Carrington and the defense secretary." Despite the country's unstable economic situation, inflationary processes and the constant and ever-increasing foreign trade deficit, the champions of a further arms race are being very active.

Britain's decision to modernize the fleet of nuclear-powered submarines carrying nuclear missiles has coincided with the recommendation of a group of high-ranking NATO experts to approve the plan for deploying on the territory of Britain, Belgium, the Netherlands, the FRG and Italy 572 medium-range missiles with nuclear warheads, including cruise missiles with a range of 1,800 miles and Pershing-2 missiles with a range of 1,200-1,400 miles. This coincidence is far from fortuitous. It confirms once again that the most reactionary circles of Western countries and the militarist leadership of the North Atlantic bloc do not wish to take account of the peoples' desire to live under conditions of lasting peace and security and to free themselves from suspicion and fear and from the arms race.

The actions of detente's opponents, of those who cherish plans for a further buildup of militarist preparations and implement them in practice, appear particularly odious against the background of the new Soviet initiative on problems of military detente and disarmament. This was set forth in the speech of Comrade L.I. Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, at the festivities in Berlin.

The Soviet Union's proposals have been greeted with profound satisfaction by millions upon millions of people throughout the world. At the same time it is noteworthy that the NATO countries, while acknowledging the positive nature of the Soviet initiative, are still on the lookout for farfetched arguments in order to implement dangerous plans for the deployment of new American medium-range nuclear missile weapons and to upset the equilibrium of the two groupings' military forces which has come about on the continent. Speaking of London's reaction to the USSR's proposals, the DAILY MAIL cited the words of Defense Secretary F. Pym: "The government will not only not limit the growth of the armed forces but will develop them."

It is quite understandable that the Soviet Union and the other socialist states cannot be indifferent to the dangerous actions of NATO militarists, from whatever country they might come. The Soviet Union will continue to show concern for strengthening its own security and that of its allies.

FRENCH CP DELEGATION MEETS WITH PONOMAREV, ZIMYANIN

LD171425 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 13 Oct 79 p 4 LD

[TASS report: "TALKS at the CPSU Central Committee"]

[Text] Talks took place at the CPSU Central Committee on 10-11 October between B.N. Ponomarev, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and secretary of the CPSU Central Committee; M.V. Zimyanin, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee; V.V. Zagladin, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee and first deputy chief of the Central Committee International Department; and a delegation from the French Communist Party [PCF] consisting of C. Fiterman, member of the PCF Politburo and Secretary of the PCF Central Committee; M. Gremetz, member of the PCF Politburo and secretary of the PCF Central Committee; and P. le Mahec, deputy chief of the PCF Central Committee International Department.

During the talks, which passed in a frank and friendly atmosphere, there was discussion, in particular, of questions of the struggle for peace, disarmament and security in Europe and questions of the further development of cooperation between the CPSU and the PCF.

The PCF delegation left for home 12 October.

The delegation was welcomed and seen off by Comrade M.V. Zimyanin; V.S. Shaposhnikov, deputy chief of the CPSU Central Committee International Section; and other CPSU Central Committee officials.

EEC COMMISSION VICE PRESIDENT TO VISIT MOSCOW

LD 172204 Moscow TASS in English 2123 GMT 17 Oct 79 LD

[Text] Brussels, October 17, TASS--An official representative of the Commission of the European Communities said here today, Vice-President of the Commission Wilhelm Haferkamp has accepted the proposal of CMEA to continue talks on the problems of relations between CMEA and the EEC. In this connection he is to arrive in Moscow at the head of an EEC delegation for talks in Moscow from November 2-4.

MORE ON SYRIA'S AL-ASAD USSR VISIT

Visit to Promote Cooperation, Peace

ID171501 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 15 Oct 79 p 1 ID

[Unattributed biographical sketch: "Hafiz al-Asad, general secretary of the Arab Socialist Renaissance Party and president of the Syrian Arab Republic"]

[Excerpt] H. al-Asad heads the leadership of the Arab Socialist Renaissance Party. During the period when he was serving in the armed forces he took an active part in the activity of the Arab Socialist Renaissance Party. From 1963 on H. al-Asad was elected a member of the leadership at all the party congresses and conferences and as of 1971 he was elected general secretary of the Arab Socialist Renaissance Party.

Under the leadership of President H. al-Asad important steps have been taken in Syria in strengthening its independence and sovereignty, party and state building and the development of the national economy. In 1971 a People's Council (parliament) was created and in 1972, a progressive national front uniting the country's patriotic parties. H. al-Asad was chairman of the Progressive National Front right from its creation. Under H. al-Asad's leadership Syria is pursuing an anti-imperialist course in the international arena and is implementing a policy of friendship and cooperation with the Soviet Union and other socialist community countries. The Syrian leadership headed by H. al-Asad resolutely rejects the separate Egyptian-Israeli treaty and advocates the strengthening of the Arabs' cohesion in the struggle against imperialism's intrigues and Israeli aggression.

H. al-Asad has made several visits to the USSR at the head of Syrian Arab Republic party and government delegations.

Greetings, Hafiz al-Asad and, through him, the friendly Syrian people. Soviet people express confidence that his visit and the forthcoming meetings and talks will serve to further strengthen the friendship and fruitful cooperation between the Soviet Union and Syria and the interests of the struggle for a just and lasting peace in the Near East.

Kosygin Dinner Speech

ID171603 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 17 Oct 79 p 4 ID

[TASS report on speech by A.N. Kosygin, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, at 15 October Kremlin dinner for President al-Asad of Syria under general heading "In a Friendly Atmosphere"]

[Text] The Soviet leadership, A.N. Kosygin said, attaches great significance to the visit to our country of Hafiz al-Asad, general secretary of the Ba'th Party and president of the Syrian Arab Republic, at the head of a Syrian party and government delegation. The peoples of the Soviet Union and Syria are united by bonds of common interest in building a new life and new relations among states on a just, democratic and progressive basis. They are united by profound feelings of mutual respect, sympathy and soliuarity.

"Many bright pages telling of the strengthening of friendship between the peoples of the Soviet Union and Syria and the broadening of equal cooperation both in international affairs and in bilateral relations have been inscribed in the chronicle of Soviet-Syrian relations," Leonid Ilich Brezhnev has pointed out. Our countries act arm in arm in the struggle against imperialism's intrigues and for peace and the peoples' security, for their freedom and independence.

This is a hard struggle demanding great endurance and constant effort. The enemies of detente frequently try to exacerbate the situation and to undermine the positive achievements in international relations. But the search for a solution to the problems on which the destiny of peace depends will continue. The Soviet Union firmly intends to travel this path. This is convincingly evidenced by the new Soviet initiative on problems of military detente and disarmament set forth in Comrade L.I. Brezhnev's Berlin speech. This initiative has been dictated by an honest policy of peace. The peoples see that it opens up an opportunity to halt the unchecked arms race and to travel the path of real disarmament and of deepening detente and mutual trust among states, which are so essential for building lasting peace. Whether this opportunity is used depends on Western countries. We hope that what will ultimately prevail there will not be artificial fears, demagogy or mercenary gain but good will, understanding of existing realities and recognition of the fact that there is no reasonable alternative to peaceful coexistence.

The Soviet Union is also prepared purposefully to continue the search for a solution to the problems relating to the Near East. Tension has not eased over the past year, rather the contrary. Here the blame lies primarily with Israel, which is still seeking to annex age-old Arab lands. But responsibility for the present state of affairs in the Near East is also borne by those who place weapons in the aggressor's hands, who help him or who go cap in hand to the aggressor. At bottom, however, the situation in this region is now increasingly being determined not by these intrigues of imperialism and its accomplices but by the growing solidarity of the Arab countries upholding their national rights and legitimate interests. They have not only recognized the danger of the policy of separate anti-Arab deals but are also offering decisive opposition to it.

It is also characteristic that regimes of different political hues which have rallied on the basis of the decisions of the Arab states' Baghdad conferences are taking an active part in this struggle. We note with satisfaction that Syria is in their front ranks. Tribute must also be paid to many other Arab states whose leaders advocate a comprehensive settlement in the Near East and have dissociated themselves from those who are prepared to trade wholesale and retail in the Arabs' vital interests.

The more closely they act, the more significant will be their success and the sooner a Near East settlement can be returned to the channel of collective efforts by all the interested parties, including the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian Arab people in the shape of the PLO. The Soviet Union's sympathies and support are invariably on the side of the Arabs' just struggle. It will continue to do everything in its power to establish a just and lasting peace in the Near East. And for this all the Arab territories occupied by Israel in 1967 must be liberated; Palestinian Arabs must really be guaranteed the right to self-determination and to creat their own state; all the states of this region must be guaranteed an independent and secure existence. In the struggle to achieve such a peace in the Near East the Arab countries can always rely on the Soviet Union.

In conclusion A.N. Kosygin proposed a toast to Hafiz al-Asad and the Syrian guests, to Soviet-Syrian friendship and to just and lasting peace in the Near East.

Al-Asad Arrival in Yerevan

LD171340 Moscow TASS in English 1251 GMT 17 Oct 79 LD

[Text] Yerevan, October 17, TASS--A Syrian party and government delegation headed by General Secretary of the Arab Socialist Renaissance Party, President of the Syrian Arab Republic Hafiz al-Asad, who are on an official friendly visit to the USSR, came from Moscow to the capital of Soviet Armenia today.

At Yerevan Airport the guests were welcomed by First Secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Armenia Karen Demirchyan, President of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the Republic Babken Sarkisov, Chairman of the Council of Ministers of Armenia Fadey Sarkisyan. The residents of Yerevan warmly welcomed the Syrian delegation.

RECENT POLITICAL DEVELOPMENTS IN SYRIA REVIEWED

LD171433 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 12 Oct 79 p 4 LD

[PRAVDA correspondent K. Geyvandov dispatch: "At an Intensive Pace"]

[Text] Damascus--There is always a crowd of tourists at Bab Ash-Sharqi, the ancient east gate of Damascus. The Syrian capital is rich in ancient monuments. There are the well preserved walls of the old city, the seven gates, the impressive monuments of Islamic architecture and the famous Al-Hamidiyah Bazaar.

However, it is not the past but the present which dominates today's Damascus, which reacts rapidly to the way the country lives and breathes. Recently the pulse of political life has not always been even. Reaction has stepped up its activity and carried out a series of provocations in Latakia and Aleppo. Damascus newspapers note in this connection that the armed attacks are the work of the reactionary "Muslim Brotherhood" organization. Moreover, it is noted here that the "Muslim Brotherhood" does not operate independently. It is directed by reactionary and proimperialist forces which have not given up the idea of forcing other Arab countries--Syria first and foremost--to embark on the path of conciliation with the aggressor, at any cost.

Many of the people I have spoken with in the Syrian capital recently have noted that the regime's opponents have tried to make use of objective difficulties and shortcomings to make the Syrian leadership and people renounce the struggle against Israeli aggression and renounce support for the just cause of the Arab people of Palestine.

A major debate took place in Damascus in September on all these problems at sessions of the country's Progressive National Front which proved a major event in the republic's political life. The front unites the ruling Ba'th Party, the Syrian Communist Party and other organizations. The work of the Progressive Front of National Unity took place under the chairmanship of Syrian President H. al-Asad. After 7 days of vigorous debate a program of broad economic, political and social reforms was approved. The front called on Syrians to intensify their vigilance and awareness and rebuff criminal elements in order to preserve the country's security, strengthen national unity, rally around the national progressive regime in Syria and support the principled course the country is implementing with respect to imperialist and Zionist plans.

A routine session of the People's Council--the Syrian parliament--then took place in Damascus, at which a chairman was elected. M. Hadid, a well-known statesman in the country, was reelected to the post. A few days later President Al-Asad issued a decree on the creation of a special committee whose task will be to elaborate proposals on strengthening the Progressive National Front and extending its powers so that it can play a more active role in all spheres of the country's vital activity.

The Syrian public received the planned changes with satisfaction. Damascus is making its contribution to their implementation. The inhabitants of the Syrian capital are engaged in peaceful, creative labor. The present peaceful days did not come easily for them. Even tranquility in Damascus itself is relative. Not far away, some 70 km from here, the aggressor has entrenched himself on the Golan Heights. Moreover Israeli bombs, shells and missiles are constantly exploding in the foothills of those mountains, in southern Lebanon.

People in Damascus are well aware that the present piratical sorties by the Israeli military against neighboring Lebanon have the aim of frightening Syrians as well as Lebanese and Palestinians. The Syrian people diplay staunchness in the face of these threats.

The headquarters of the International Confederation of Arab Trade Unions [ICATU] is located in a small house on a Damascus street. It was formerly located in Cairo. It was not for nothing that the ICATU leaders, boycotting the Egyptian leadership's course of a separate settlement with Israel, chose Damascus for their headquarters: Syria advocates a complete and all-embracing Near East settlement.

"Arab working people," S.A. Ahmad, deputy general secretary of ICATU, said in a talk with us, "are fully determined to thwart new conspiracies between imperialism, Zionism and reaction. For us it is particularly important that we are not alone in the struggle to recover our rights, which have been flouted by the aggressor. On our side are all national progressive forces in Arab countries and all forces for freedom and peace in the world, with the friendly Soviet Union in their vanguard. We see this solidarity as the main guarantee of success for the Arab national liberation movement...."

CONTINUING UNREST IN IRANIAN PROVINCES NOTED

LD180825 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 15 Oct 79 p 5 LD

[TASS report: "Complex Situation"]

[Text] Tehran, 14 October--Armed clashes between Kurdish insurgents and government troops are continuing in Iranian Kordestan. Prime minister's representative Sadeq Zibakalam and religious figure Ayatollah Abassi were kidnapped yesterday in Mahabad by partisans. All stores, state establishments and schools in Mahabad are shut. Exchanges of gunfire are flaring up in various parts of the city. Some 12 prisoners were released following an attack on a police precinct station by insurgents. According to a report by the Tehran TIMES, a battle took place in the vicinity of Qasr-e-Shirin between policemen and Kurds.

In an interview with the newspaper BAMDAD, Governor General Haqgu of the province of West Azarbaijan declared that he is prepared to enter into contact with representatives of the various sections of the Kurdish population in order to find peaceful ways of restoring calm and security in this region.

In recent days the situation has deteriorated sharply in Zahedan, the central city of the Iranian province of Sistan and Baluchestan, where elections to the city council are taking place. After the "Muslim Alliance" party boycotted the elections and nine Baluchis on the electoral commission resigned, armed clashes took place in the city. According to a statement by the local press, the election campaign in Zahedan was wrecked by counterrevolutionary elements who came out onto the streets with sticks, rocks and guns.

Talks on Normalization Started

LD171932 Moscow TASS in English 1907 GMT 17 Oct 79 LD

[Text] Tehran, October 17, TASS--Fighting continues in Iranian Kordestan between Kurdish rebels and government forces. Guerrillas attacked the headquarters of the "Islamic Revolutionary Guards" and the police office in Sardasht and also several houses of policemen in Mahabad, the newspaper BAMDAD reports.

Shots are heard in these two towns as night sets in. There were armed clashes between rebels and government troops in the villages of Zirdjir and Nehesan; 47 rebels were killed during the past 24 hours. Nothing is reported about government losses.

Talks on the normalisation of the situation in Iranian Kordestan have started between representatives of the government and leaders of the Kurdish movement for autonomy. The commenced talks instil hope that the fratricidal war will be ended and the Kurdish problem peacefully solved, the newspaper Tehran TIMES writes in this connection.

Reports say that the situation remains tense in the Iranian port of Enzeli on the Caspian Sea. Stores and offices in the town are closed. 13 people were killed and 35 injured in the course of two days of unrest in Enzeli.

BREZHNEV, KOSYGIN SEND ANNIVERSARY MESSAGE TO PDRY LEADERS

LD171031 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 14 Oct 79 p 1 LD

[Text] To Comrade 'Abd al-Fatah Isma'il, secretary general of the Yemen Socialist Party [YSP] Central Committee and chairman of the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen [PDRY] Supreme People's Council Presidium,

To Comrade 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, member of the YSP Central Committee Politburo and PDRY prime minister:

On behalf of the CPSU Central Committee, the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium and the Soviet people and on our own account we send cordial congratulations, to you, dear friends, to the YSP Central Committee, to the Supreme People's Council Presidium and to the PDRY Government and people on the occasion of the national holiday--14 October Revolution Day. The anti-imperialist uprising in October 1963 led to the achievement of freedom and independence by the people of South Yemen and opened the way to building a new society. A historic milestone along this road was the creation of the YSP, which unites progressive representatives of the working people. We are convinced that under the leadership of this vanguard the South Yemeni people will achieve further successes in overcoming the grave consequences of colonialism, implementing revolutionary transformations and boosting their economy and culture.

True to the Leninist policy of peace and friendship among peoples, the Soviet Union will continue to strengthen its friendly cooperation with democratic Yemen and support its people's just struggle against the intrigues of imperialist and reactionary forces in defence of revolutionary gains, national independence and sovereignty. We are confident that the relations of close friendship and broad, fruitful cooperation between the USSR and the PDRY, based on commonality of aims and imbued with the spirit of fraternal solidarity, will be further developed for the benefit of our countries' peoples and in the interests of strengthening peace and international security.

We wish you and the friendly PDRY people prosperity, happiness and success in fulfilling the First YSP Congress's decisions and in building a new life.

[Signed] L. Brezhnev, A. Kosygin.

NO DIFFERENCES SEEN IN SOVIET, ARAB VIEWS ON MIDDLE EAST

LD180238 Moscow in Arabic to North Africa 1830 GMT 17 Oct 79 LD

[Unattributed commentary: "Along the Road to Consolidating Arab-Soviet Relations"]

[Text] The official part of the friendly visit to the Soviet Union of President Hafiz al-Asad, secretary general of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party and president of the Syrian Arab Republic, leading a Syrian party and government delegation, has ended.

On 15 October a delegation representing the Algerian National Liberation Front (FLN) led by Belaid Abd Es Salim, member of the Political Bureau and chairman of the Economic Committee of the FLN Central Committee, arrived in Moscow. It was announced in the Soviet press that 'Abd al-Fatah Isma'il, secretary general of the Yemeni Socialist Party Central Committee and chairman of the Presidium of the Supreme People's Council in the PDRY, would be paying an official and friendly visit to the USSR toward the end of this month.

All these visits and talks between Arab and Soviet statesmen--whether those which were completed, those underway, or those to take place--are aimed at a noble objective: the coordination of efforts in order to achieve a lasting just peace in the Middle East, consolidate world peace and consolidate equitable and mutually beneficial cooperation. The situation in the Middle East, naturally, is the main topic of discussion. In the year since the signing of the Camp David U. S.-Egyptian-Israeli separate agreement, the situation in the Middle East has become noticeably more critical. Despite what the Western, Zionist and Egyptian propaganda claim, a step has been achieved, not in the direction of peace, but in the opposite direction. The Camp David accord created objective conditions for a new Israeli aggression, this time against Lebanon, and the hardening of the Israeli policy in general in the Middle East. President As-Sadat's capitulatory policy not only freed Israel's hands, but also the hands of its protector, the United States, which now threatens Arab countries openly with the use of force to consolidate its positions in the Middle East. For this reason, the so-called quick reaction corps is being set up.

In this state of affairs, it has become important, more than at any other time in the past, to consolidate Arab unity and all the forces supporting the Arabs' just struggle to eliminate the traces of Israeli aggression. President Hafiz al-Asad said in Moscow: With us there are sincere friends who help our struggle and back the rights of the Arab nations, foremost the Soviet Union which is always with us. Aleksey Kosygin, Soviet prime minister, said addressing the great guest: The Soviet Union's sympathy and support are always on the side of the just Arab struggle. He added that the Arab countries in their struggle for a just and lasting peace in the Middle East could always rely on the Soviet Union. The basis of this peace should be the liberation of all Arab lands occupied by Israel in 1967 and guaranteeing the Palestinian people's right to self-determination and establishing their state: It is known that this Soviet view is shared by the participants in the Baghdad Arab summit.

This unity of opinion provides a brilliant foundation for Soviet-Arab cooperation in all fields in the search for a settlement of the Middle East crisis. The enemies of a just settlement--Israel, Egypt and the United States--are united by the desire to perpetuate Israeli occupation of Arab land, eliminate the Palestinian resistance and widen the old imperialist support bases and create new ones in this region.

During talks there may be different opinions on these or those international issues and on economic or party cooperation. Indeed, because of this there are talks in order to narrow these views as much as possible or to find a solution to the matter acceptable to all sides. However, over the Middle East problem, as a general rule, there are no differences between the Soviet Union and the leaders of friendly Arab countries. This unanimity is an aspect of the present Soviet-Arab contacts.

SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA

BRITISH ATTEMPTING TO WRECK LONDON TALKS ON RHODESIA

ID172050 Moscow World Service in English 1500 GMT 17 Oct 79 ID

[Text] The latest developments at the London conference on Rhodesia indicate that the British Government is trying to wreck the talks. The foreign secretary, Lord Carrington, has declared that he will now conduct talks on Rhodesia's new constitution only with the Muzorewa-Smith regime, ignoring the delegation of the Zimbabwe Patriotic Front. Our London correspondent, Boris Kalyagin, takes up the story:

In an attempt to justify its action, the British side says that the front's leaders, Joshua Nkomo and Robert Mugabe, have refused to accept the British-prepared draft constitution for Rhodesia. What actually happened was that Lord Carrington demanded, in an ultimatum form, that the delegation of the patriotic forces accept the British draft as a whole or the conference would discontinue. As THE DAILY TELEGRAPH pointed out, Lord Carrington put a pistol to the front's head. Such a manner of conducting talks certainly resembles London's policy with regard to its colonies in the years of the British Empire. As was only to be expected, it aroused protests on the part of the African delegates. What is more, a number of provisions made by the British Government are racist in character and therefore cannot be accepted by the Zimbabwe people. For instance, London wants the future constitution of Rhodesia to guarantee white plantation owners protection against confiscation of their land. Part of all cultivated land in Rhodesia--and the best land at that--is owned by 6,000 whites, while hundreds of thousands of black Africans have no land of their own and have to work as farm laborers. The Patriotic Front leaders told London that they would never agree to the country's wealth remaining in the hands of a small group of white settlers. The British delegation deliberately put forward unacceptable conditions so as to accuse the Patriotic Front of obdurancy [as heard] and, under this pretext, conclude a separate deal with the Muzorewa-Smith regime and lift economic sanctions against Rhodesia. London's intentions were borne out by the recent Tory conference in Blackpool. Speakers at the conference voiced support for Rhodesian racists and vehemently attacked the Zimbabwe Patriotic Front, describing its leaders as terrorists and even communist agents. Lord Carrington's diplomatic tricks can hardly mislead anyone. Agreement on Rhodesia is possible only if all parties involved in the conflict participate in it.

GUINEAN PRESIDENT GREETS BREZHNEV WHILE OVERFLYING USSR

ID171517 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 10 Oct 79 p 2 ID

[Unattributed report: "From on Board His Aircraft"]

[Text] A telegram has been sent to L.I. Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, from on board his aircraft by Ahmed Sekou Toure, general secretary of the Guinea party-state [partiya-gosudarstvo] and president of the People's Revolutionary Republic of Guinea, which says:

"Overflying the capital of the Soviet Union, cradle of socialist revolution, on our way to the DPRK, the delegation of the People's Revolutionary Republic of Guinea and I personally send the Soviet people, the CPSU, its Central Committee and you personally our warm, fraternal greetings. We confirm our desire and determination to develop even deeper and more comradely cooperation between our two states.

"With deepest respect."

UNITED STATES 'WELCOMES' NEW GOVERNMENT IN EL SALVADOR

LD180214 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1915 GMT 17 Oct 79 LD

[Vitaliy Sobolev commentary]

[Text] According to the paper New York TIMES, the news of the coup in El Salvador was given an unusually friendly welcome in the United States. The paper notes that the U.S. administration was under a strong apprehension that the people's demonstrations against the Romero dictatorship would bring the leftwingers, that is, a really democratic government, to power. Now Washington had met the creation of a military-civilian junta with relief.

Reactionary dictatorships become inconvenient and objectionable to the United States when they are threatened with collapse, our commentator Vitaliy Sobolev writes. But that does not mean that Washington is against military dictatorships in Latin America. It is not fortuitous that the first thing the Salvadoran General Romero did, like Somoza before him, was to flee to the United States. One can hardly find a country in Latin America where at some period or other a tyrant in a military uniform, placed in the presidential chair with U.S. aid, was not the ruler.

Now, however, the region's dictatorships are finding it increasingly difficult to hold on to power. Several Latin American states changed over to civilian and democratic forms of rule this year alone. There have been cases where, together with the current gorilla, as the dictators are called by the Latin Americans, the wave of people's anger has also wiped away the system of imperialist dependence with which the United States has entangled many of its neighbors in the Western Hemisphere.

Judging from the words of the New York TIMES, the United States is now hoping to preserve El Salvador in its sphere of political and economic dependence. However, the people of El Salvador are striving toward genuine democracy and their will has decisive significance.

Coup 'Made in USA'

LD171838 Moscow TASS in English 1819 GMT 17 Oct 79 LD

[Text] San Jose, October 17, TASS--According to reports from El Salvador, the situation in that Central American country, where a military coup was accomplished two days ago, remains intricate and contradictory.

The military junta, which overthrew head of the dictatorial regime General Romero, issued a programme of extraordinary measures aimed, as, the programme points, at "establishing democracy."

The junta declared its intention to "ensure respect for the rights of Salvador citizens, to allow the activity of political parties and trade unions, to carry out an agrarian reform, to take measures for the country's economic development and eradicate corruption." The military promised to declare a political amnesty and disband a terrorist group headed by Romero, with whose aid he made short work of participants in popular actions. At the same time, the junta imposed the state of siege on the country. Constitutional guarantees have been cancelled for 30 days; it is prohibited to gather in groups of more than three persons in the streets. A stringent curfew is in effect.

Yesterday, the new authorities sent soldiers against demonstrators in the capital and its suburbs, who demanded a radical improvement of living conditions. Four demonstrators were killed and twenty wounded.

While the influential Christian Democratic Party declared in support of the junta, a number of people's organizations came out against it, describing the coup as an attempt of definite forces to prevent radical changes in the country by means of sham "democratisation." The character of the military junta, said the People's Revolutionary Bloc, uniting factory and office workers and students, is extremely clear: They are loyal flunkeys of the ruling classes and U.S. imperialism. The overthrow of Romero was planned in Washington, which decided to get rid of this odious figure in order to prevent the growth of the popular actions in the country, said the popular liberation front "Farabundo Marti", a military political organization waging an armed struggle for putting an end to the rule of the oligarchy and U.S. monopolies.

Paris, October 17, TASS--The coup in Salvador, L'HUMANITE writes, has the "Made in the USA" trade mark. After the overthrow of the dictatorship in Nicaragua, the newspaper recalled, White House emissaries went to Salvador one after another in order to find an on the spot formula to contain the mounting popular struggle against the existing regime.

NICARAGUAN COURT TRIES SOMOZA IN ABSENTIA

LD180854 Moscow TASS in English 0744 GMT 18 Oct 79 LD

[Text] Managua, October 18, TASS--A trial in absentia of the overthrown dictator Somoza began here Wednesday night. Among the numerous crimes which Somoza is charged with is the assassination of Pedro Joaquim Chamorra, a journalist, in January 1978 on the dictator's order. Escaping from the people's wrath, Somoza fled Nicaragua and is now in hiding in Paraguay.

GRENADA QUASHES PLOT AGAINST BISHOP GOVERNMENT

LD161028 Moscow TASS in English 0940 GMT 16 Oct 79 LD

[Text] Havana, October 16, TASS--Security agencies of Grenada uncovered a reactionary plot to overthrow the progressive government, headed by Premier Maurice Bishop, dispatches from Grenada report. A statement, issued by the premier's office in Saint George's, the capital of Grenada, says that 20 arrests had been made. Large quantities of arms were seized from the plotters. It is emphasized that former servicemen of Eric Gairy's regime, overthrow in March last as a result of popular manifestations, were involved in the conspiracy. The opposite newspaper TORCHLIGHT, which had made more than once malicious attacks on the government, was temporarily closed.

BRAZILIAN CP HEAD SEES PONOMAREV, TO RETURN HOME

LD162124 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1830 GMT 16 Oct 79 LD

[Text] Prestes, secretary general of the Brazilian Communist Party, is returning to Brazil, where communists, all democrats and patriots have achieved the declaration of a political amnesty. A meeting took place in the CPSU Central Committee between Comrade Prestes and Ponomarev, candidate member of the Central Committee Politburo and secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, and Brutents, deputy head of the International Department of the CPSU Central Committee.

On behalf of the leadership of the Brazilian Communist Party, Prestes expressed deep gratitude to the CPSU Central Committee for the constant solidarity of the communists and the people of the Soviet Union with the struggle of Brazilian communists against reaction and imperialism, for peace, democracy and social progress. During the conversation note was made of the importance of the development of Brazilian-Soviet relations and friendship between the two peoples.

PRAVDA CORRESPONDENT VIEWS POLITICAL CHANGES IN ECUADOR

LD161427 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 11 Oct 79 p 4 LD

[Correspondent V. Listov dispatch: "Ecuador: Time of Change"]

[Excerpt] Quito, October--Whereas time has not had much effect on the capital's outward appearance, great changes have occurred in Ecuador's political life in recent years. Chief among these changes is the handover of power from the military to a civilian government.

This process, which has passed through several stages, began 3 years ago, when the military triumvirate which ruled the country adopted a plan for a gradual return to a regime of "representative democracy." First they drew up a new constitution and conducted a referendum in which the Ecuadoreans supported its ratification. Then a presidential election was held in July of last year. Since not one of the six candidates obtained the necessary majority, a second round was held 29 April this year. This time the contestants were Jaime Roldos Aguilera, candidate for the Concentration of Popular Forces, and Sixto Duran Ballen, rightwing candidate, who collected 27.7 and 23.8 percent of the votes respectively in the first round. The winner was 38-year-old lawer J. Roldos, for whom the overwhelming majority voted.

On 13 June J. Roldos was presented with a sheet of parchment with the handwritten text of the resolution of the Supreme Electoral Tribunal officially acknowledging his election victory. The ceremony of J. Roldos' induction to the post of president of the republic took place 2 months later. The new constitution came into force the same day, and the 69 members of the national House of Representatives elected in April met for their first session. This concluded the process of Ecuador's return to a constitutional form of government.

"The agrarian question is now of paramount significance to the country," (Estuardo Gualye), chariman of the Ecuadorean Indian federation, declared. "The law on agrarian reform adopted in October 1973 by the military government headed by Gen Rodriguez Lara proclaimed as its aim the liquidation of latifundias and the redistribution of land in the peasants' favor. Subsequently, however, the agrarian reform's implementation was delayed. As a result 0.1 percent of farms larger than 500 hectares now account for 27 percent of all cultivated land. Some 400 latifundistas hold more than 1 million hectares--10 times more than 200,000 small landowners. At the same time hundreds of thousands of peasants do not have even a scrap of land. They are primarily the country's indigenous population --indians."

Peasants were constantly coming into the room housing the federation's executive committee, faces with high cheekbones and a cherry-colored tan from the mountain sun and wind, and horny palms coarsened by constant work in the fields. On their shoulders rough homespun ponchos and on their feet homemade leather sandals. [paragraph continues]

These are emissaries who have come to the capital to "seek justice." But what justice can the Ecuadorean peasant count on today if strength is on the side of the landowners--in the form of a bourgeois state with its bureaucratic establishments, courts, police and army? It was far from accidental that the commission which drafted the text of the new constitution was headed by the big latifundista Galo Plaza, and if anyone knows how to safeguard the interests of his class by "legal means" it is he.

The main parties belonging to the broad left front--primarily the Communist Party of Ecuador [PCE]--are also engaged in formulating their position. PCE Secretary General Pedro Saad said that the PCE will not be in opposition for opposition's sake. Ecuadorean communists will support those steps of the new government which coincide with their own program.

At the same time, P. Saad pointed out, the PCE will struggle consistently to satisfy the working masses' urgent demands: the implementation of profound and democratic agrarian reform, the full nationalization of the oil industry, the development of the state sector in the national economy, the democratization of political life, the raising of the people's living standards by fulfilling the program jointly advanced by three trade union centers, the repeal of antiworker laws, state control of food prices and the prices of essential goods, and so forth. Communists will also seek the denunciation of international pacts and agreements which, like the Inter-American Mutual Assistance Pact, infringe on Ecuador's sovereignty, and will insist on the implementation of a policy of peace and friendship with all countries regardless of their social system.

In the form in which the agrarian reform was implemented in Ecuador it did not resolve the problems of the landless peasantry. The oligarchy preserved its predominant positions. The reform merely cleared the way for the accelerated development of capitalism and exacerbated the social contradictions in the Ecuadorean countryside.

Many other acute social problems await solution. My interlocutors invariably pointed out that during the election the Ecuadoreans supported changes in domestic and foreign policy which would meet the interests of the broad people's masses. J. Roldos was able to latch on to these sentiments and in his election platform he reflected the Ecuadorean people's desire for change: He opposed the rule of the traditional Ecuadorean oligarchy and promised to establish a "truly democratic regime" and to implement a number of reforms with a view to a "more just" redistribution of income among different sections of society.

Of course, it is premature to say whether the promised reforms will be implemented. One thing is beyond doubt, however: Changes in the life of Ecuador have already begun, above all in its foreign policy. Thus, even before the new president was officially installed in his post diplomatic relations were restored with socialist Cuba. Ecuador proclaimed solidarity with Nicaragua's patriots. Democratic forces are waiting for these steps to be followed by others meeting Ecuador's national interests and its people's aspirations.

The handover of power to the civilian government has entailed a substantial regrouping of political forces. Some parties have held national conferences and determined their positions for the immediate future and their attitude toward the new government. Others are engaged in seeking allies in connection with the resumption of parliamentary activities. Yet others are reforming their ranks.

ARTICLE LAUDS GAINS DURING 62 YEARS OF SOVIET POWER

ID171223 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 15 Oct 79 p 1 LD

[Editorial "On a True Course"]

[Text] With the approach of the October holiday, the wave of popular political and labor enthusiasm is growing. A new surge of patriotic inspiration has been evoked in the masses by the CPSU Central Committee slogans published yesterday. We review with pride the road which has been travelled and the results of the enormous socioeconomic transformations which have been crowned with the construction of an advanced socialist society. All that has been achieved in 62 years of Soviet power and all the socialist gains of the last decades are unbreakably linked with the heroic struggle of the Communist Party for the well-being and happiness of the people. Throughout all our difficult and glorious path, it has always been victorious and is victorious through the wholehearted fidelity to Marxism-Leninism.

The teachings and behests of Vladimir Ilich Lenin are the foundations of the fruitful, revolutionary transforming activity of the CPSU. The great vital force of its general line, and the unbreakable continuity of aims, experience and traditions, have been revealed especially fully at the contemporary stage of construction of communism. The party has always regarded steadfast implementation of the Leninist political course as the chief condition for the successful, consistent development of the country.

The CPSU Central Committee October 1964 Plenum, which has gone down in party history as a very important milestone, was of great importance for consistent implementation of this course. It showed convincingly the party's political maturity, its ability resolutely to eliminate everything hindering our progress, in particular any manifestations of subjectivism and voluntarism, and expressed the steadfast will of communists strictly to observe and develop Leninist norms of party life and principles of party leadership. The plenum made an outstanding contribution to the drafting of an integrated, profoundly scientific approach to the leadership of a society of developed socialism. It is just such a Marxist-Leninist approach to the resolution of economic, sociopolitical and ideological problems which have become topical, which found further development in the decisions of the 23d, 24th and 25th CPSU congresses, that distinguishes the multifaceted activity of our party, its Central Committee and its Politburo, headed by Comrade Brezhnev, general secretary of the Central Committee.

The experience of the past 15 years has shown with all force that the tried and tested Leninist course of domestic and foreign policy guarantees the constant reinforcement of the might of our socialist homeland and the strengthening of its international positions. The country year by year rises confidently to new heights of socioeconomic progress. It is sufficient to mention that during the years of the eighth, ninth and 10th 5-year plans, the volume of its basic production stocks increased 2.8 times, national income more than doubled and real per capita incomes increased more than 1.8 times. At present the will and collective reason of the party and the efforts and enthusiasm of the popular masses are directed toward implementing the historic decisions of the 25th CPSU Congress and making maximum use of the possibilities of developed socialism in the interests of the flourishing of socialist society and the growth in the well-being of the people. The fulfillment of the congress aims demands a higher standard of party management of economic and cultural construction, of the development of social relationships and the education of people.

It is in this direction that the most important political documents recently adopted by the CPSU Central Committee are aimed, including the decision on further improving ideological and political education work and that on improving the economic mechanism.

The policy of the party and its practical activity, imbued with a deep faith in the creative strength of the masses, and with genuine concern for the people of labor, create in the country a good workmanlike situation and a healthy moral political atmosphere. In the process of communist construction the party's influence increases in all spheres of public life. Soviet people learn from the CPSU and its organizations to follow Leninist norms and principles in all their affairs and actions. With the growth in the leading role of the Communist Party it is staunchly improving the forms and methods of its work in the spirit of Leninist requirements, and is constantly concerned for the expansion and strengthening of links with the masses and for the observance of the Leninist principle of collective leadership, th principle of democratic centralism, and for the development and deepening of intra-party democracy in combination with the reinforcement of party discipline and the responsibility of communists for the work entrusted to them. The party is striving to see that our cadres, party organs and all communists acquire the Leninist style of working, a creative style, alien to subjectivism and imbued with high standards demanded of oneself and of others. This style is incompatible with self-satisfied attitude and with making an ostentatious fuss or with an uncritical attitude toward matters. Criticism and self-criticism have been and remain the norm of internal party life and of the life of our entire society.

Wisely and firmly implementing the Leninist political course within the country, our party at the same time strives to create beneficial external conditions for building communism. Together with the fraternal peoples of the socialist community, the Soviet people are justly proud of their successes in the struggle for peace and international security. The Communist Party has deservedly won the profound respect, love and trust of the people. The people has boundless faith in its vanguard and the party's ability to carry out its great mission.

Our party, Leonid Ilich Brezhnev has said, has everything in order to be at the height of its historic responsibiity. We are inspired with the lofty objective of the well-being of the people, and we possess a rich experience of many years in building a new life. Marxism-Leninism serves us as our guide in action, a science which has embodied all the achievements of human genius. We are confident of our strength.

Full of vital force, energy and revolutionary optimism, our 17 million-strong party bears with honor the banner of Marxism-Leninism. Under this banner it is confidently leading the Soviet people from horizon to horizon along the broad road of building communism. Under the banner of Marxism-Leninism, under the leadership of the Communist Party, forward to the victory of communism!

IDEOLOGICAL CONFERENCE SPEAKERS PAY TRIBUTE TO BREZHNEV

LD171332 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0938 GMT 17 Oct 79 LD

[Text] Moscow, 17 Oct--A TASS correspondent report:

The period since the October (1964) Plenum of the CPSU Central Committee occupies an outstanding place in the history of the Soviet people and state, stress the participants in the All-Union Conference of Ideological Workers, now in its 2d day in the Kremlin, in their speeches.

Profound and large-scale transformations in economics, science and culture and the unprecedented, in intensity and dynamism, international activities of the party in this period have brought the USSR to new qualitative levels.

In the 15 years which have elapsed, the CPSU and its Leninist Central Committee have accumulated tremendous experience in the matter of educating and mobilizing the masses for the solution of the major tasks for the national economy. In all this work, the final aim of which is the material prosperity and spiritual growth of the Soviet man, an important role belongs to Leonid Ilich Brezhnev.

"From the moment when Leonid Brezhnev, by the party's will, became head of the CPSU Central Committee, his remarkable talents as outstanding politician and statesman of the present day and tireless organizer of the building of communism have been revealed with particular clarity. He wholly devotes his creative powers, tremendous experience and knowledge to the prosperity of the socialist homeland and the struggle for peace and social progress," declared Valentin Makeyev, secretary of the Moscow Gorkom.

Leonid Brezhnev's works and speeches form a major contribution to the development of Marxist-Leninist theory and enrich the practice of scientific communism, note the participants in the Kremlin conference. "Leonid Brezhnev stands before us not only as an active and busy participant in truly epoch-making events in the country's life, but also as a propagandist and agitator of the Leninist school," declared Anatoliy Kudryavtsev, an engineer at a Bryansk engineering works.

The publication of Leonid Brezhnev's two-volume work "Topical Questions of the Ideological Work of the CPSU" was a major event in the life of the party and country. His books "Malaya Zemlya," "Rebirth" and "Virgin Lands" are splendid examples of conducting educative work in various conditions and profound thought about the means and directions of improving its efficiency. They actively help to raise the political consciousness of the masses.

Leonid Brezhnev's outstanding contribution to the working out and implementation of the party's Leninist course is once again confirmed by his speech at the celebrations in Berlin devoted to the 30th anniversary of the GDR, said Vasiliy Zakharov, secretary of the Leningradskiy Obkom. Soviet people utterly and completely approve and support the new historic peace initiatives contained in this speech and express to Leonid Brezhnev their boundless gratitude for his tireless activities directed toward supporting the cause of peace, for the benefit and happiness of all Soviet people.

Greetings to Brezhnev

LD171334 Moscow TASS in English 1312 GMT 17 Oct 79 LD

[Text] Moscow, October 17, TASS--The All-Union Meeting of Ideological Workers has closed in Moscow today. In the course of two days its participants discussed ways for perfecting propaganda, all forms of ideological-political and moral education of the working people.

The report delivered by Mikhail Suslov, member of the Politburo, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, the speeches by the participants in the meeting devoted special attention to the course of implementation of the decision of the CPSU Central Committee adopted in spring this year "On Further Improvement of Ideological, Political and Education Work".

It was stressed that this document has become a broad programme for action in the field of ideological-education work.

It was with a feeling of great satisfaction that the reporters spoke on the activity of the CPSU Central Committee, the Politbureau of the party Central Committee and General Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, President of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet Leonid Brezhnev directed at easing international tensions. Important steps on the way of eliminating the threat of war and ending the arms race, they pointed out, are the signing of the SALT II treaty, the new peace initiatives set forth in Leonid Brezhnev's speech in Berlin.

In their message of greetings addressed to the CPSU Central Committee, to Leonid Brezhnev, which was adopted today, the participants in the meeting expressed full approval and ardent support for their fruitful activity. "We will spare no effort to educate the working people, our youth in the spirit of Marxism-Leninism, Soviet patriotism, friendship with peoples of the fraternal socialist countries, internationalist solidarity with all fighters against imperialism, for peace and social progress", says the message.

Conclusion of Conference

LD172102 Moscow TASS in English 2022 GMT 17 Oct 79 LD

[Excerpts] Moscow, October 17, TASS--An All-Union Conference of Ideological Workers was held in the Great Kremlin Palace on October 16-17.

The participants in the conference discussed a report of members of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee Mikhail Suslov, the implementation of the resolution of the Central Committee of the party "On Further Improvement of Ideological and Political Educational Work." This resolution, it was noted at the conference, exerted considerable influence on further enhancement of quality and effectivity of the ideological and political educational work, on closely combining political, labour and moral education.

Over eleven million young workers will be trained during the current five-year plan period, said Chairman of the USSR State Committee for Vocational Training Aleksandr Bulgakov. Of great importance is the qualitative aspect of the matter. Achieving organic unity of educational process and upbringing, instilling lofty moral-political qualities and industriousness in students, vocational schools are implementing a comprehensive approach to the education of future workers.

Dedication to work, interest in technology, respect for professions of workers must be developed in people from childhood, therefore, it is necessary to enhance pedagogical work among parents, to ensure that an active attitude to life be developed in future workers from an early age, he said.

TASS Director General Sergey Losev stressed in his speech that certain circles in the West hope that by using a huge propaganda apparatus imperialism will be able to achieve the impossible--to arrest the fall of its prestige in the world. In order to sow doubts in the masses about the sincerity of the aspirations of the USSR, in order to justify the unrestrained arms race, hostile propaganda tries to convince peoples that the threat to peace, allegedly, comes not from the militaristic circles of the USA and NATO but from the Soviet Union.

Hostile propaganda resorts to all means ranging from misinformation of the public to distorting the Soviet doctrine. It fears the very idea of detente. Nitze, one of the members of the reactionary "Committee on the Present Danger", once said that what is alarming is not the SALT II treaty itself but the fact that this treaty depends on the process of detente.

Concentrating the attention on the spurious "Soviet military menace", repeating this lie many times, the West hopes that it will be able to set the public opinion against the Soviet Union.

Hostile campaigns in the West are constantly increasing in their strength, scope and degree of coordination.

We realise that the vigorous and effective opposition to this onslaught is the most important task of our activity in the sphere of information, Sergey Losev said.

Chairman of the Central Council of Soviet Trade Unions Aleksey Shibayev devoted a considerable part of his speech to the work of trade union organizations in spreading an introduction of new forms of organization of work. He pointed out that the movement for the communist attitude to work has become a veritable school of labour, political and moral education of the Soviet people.

Taking part in the conference were secretaries and heads of departments of the central committees of the communist parties of the union republics, of territorial committees, regional committees, city committees, and district committees of the party, heads of central ideological departments and establishments, high-placed functionaries of the CPSU Central Committee, ministers of the USSR, political workers of the Soviet Armed Forces, heads of enterprises and construction projects, scientists, trade union and YCL functionaries, workers in literature and art, lecturers, journalists.

CSA SURVEYS PROGRESS OF HARVESTING, THRESHING

LD172238 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1900 GMT 17 Oct 79 LD

[Text] According to USSR Central Statistical Administration data by 15 October grain and pulse crops, excluding corn, had been reaped over almost 114 million hectares in the country. This is 91 percent of the sown area. Threshing has been carried out over almost 113 million hectares--99 percent of the area reaped.

Harvesting of grain crops has been completed in the best time by field workers in Orenburgskaya Oblast and Altayskiy Kray. The machine operators of Kazakhstan, who have grown a rich harvest of grain crops, are close to completion.

Rice harvesting is proceeding at a faster rate than last year.

Harvesting of cotton, corn, sunflower, flax-fibre and vegetables is continuing. Field-workers are completing the sowing of winter crops on farms in the southern regions of the Russian Federation, the Ukraine, Central Asia and Transcaucasia.

RADIO REPORTS AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENTS 17 OCTOBER

LD180710 [Editorial Report LD] The following is a compilation of reports on agricultural developments in the USSR carried by Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 17 October. Times of broadcasts are given in parentheses at the end of each item:

Throughout the RSFSR 92 percent of the buckwheat and about 50 percent of the grain corn have been harvested. The threshing of sunflower and the sugar beet harvest have entered their final phase. (0100 GMT)

The sugar beet harvest is drawing to a close in Kurskaya Oblast. It occupied over 170,000 hectares. More than 2 million tons of beets have been harvested. (0204 GMT)

The winter crop sowing plan has been completed in the Russian Federation. Grain crops have been sown on more than 22.5 million hectares. Experts think that the plants are in good condition. They have been helped to grow by the rain in the south and the warm weather in the central areas of the country. We reported earlier that the fall sowing plan has been completed by the Ukraine and a number of other republics. Sowing continues in the Central Asian republics, Transcaucasia and the south of the European part of the country. (0500 GMT)

Harvesting is being completed in the country's fields. The rice crop has been reaped on 90 percent of the area by the middle of October. In the Ukraine this task has been virtually finished. Many southern areas are now harvesting corn sown for grain; it has so far been brought in from an area larger than the same time last year. Sugar beet plantations have been harvested up to 80 percent; while on the sunflower fields of the RSFSR and Kazakhstan a considerable part of the work is yet to be done. The potato harvest has been gathered mostly at a fast rate this year. Five union republics have now fulfilled their plans for winter crop sowing: The work is still in progress of the south of the USSR. (1600 GMT)

SELSKAYA ZHIZN REVIEWS HARVESTING, WINTER CROP SOWING

LD18053 Moscow SELSKAYA ZHIZN in Russian 12 Oct 79 p 1 LD

[Excerpts] According to a USSR Central Statistical Administration report, 113.5 million hectares of grain and leguminous crops (excluding corn) had been harvested by 8 October --91 percent of the sown area--and 11.6 million hectares had been threshed--98 percent of the total harvested. Farms are taking all the necessry steps to insure that harvesting operations are completed within the next few days, that grain is transported from the threshing floors more rapidly and that as much grain as possible is discharged into state granaries.

The grainfields of Omskaya Oblast have produced gratifying high yields. Harvesting is almost finished here. Many kolkhozes and sovkhozes have revised their previously adopted pledges and are selling above-plan grain. Particular attention is being paid to the preparation of strong and valuable types of wheat. Grain is still being delivered to the elevators by farms in Altayskiy Kray and Novosibirskaya and other oblasts. In the RSFSR a total of 68.1 million hectares of grain have been harvested--90 percent of the sown area--and 67.2 million hectares have been threshed. A number of farms in the West Siberian, Northwest and Central regions have still not harvested all of the sown area.

The last million of 25 million hectares is being harvested in Kazakhstan. As they approach the end of threshing operations farms are intensifying the work being done on threshing floors and accelerating the shipment to elevators of grain which counts toward their high socialist pledges.

It is a busy time for rice growers. They are still harvesting in the rice fields. Some 492,000 hectares of rice have been harvested--82 percent of the sown area. Some 406,000 hectares have been threshed. The important work in Krymskaya and Khersonskaya oblasts is coming to an end. Machine operators are moving their combines out of the rice fields in the Kuban. Some 52 percent of the planned amount of rice has been harvested in Astrakhanskaya Oblast, while in the Dagestanskaya ASSR the figure is 53 percent. The first columns of rice-laden trucks have arrvied from farms in the Chardarinskiy Rayon rice-growing area in Chimkentskaya Oblast. The New Kazakhstan and Voskhod sovkhozes are achieving an average yield of 50 quintals per hectare. Most farms are threshing grain twice.

Some 1.5 million hectares of ripe corncobs have been harvested--44 percent of the area sown. Cobs remain unharvested over considerable areas of the Severo-Ossetinskaya, Checheno-Ingushskaya and Dagestanskaya ASSR's and in a number of oblasts in the Ukraine. Harvesting has been delayed in the Kirgizskaya SSR as a result of a shortage of transportation to move the cobs from the combines and threashing floors.

The sunflower harvest is at its peak. Some 2.5 million hectares of seeds have been threshed--55 percent of the sown area. Moldavian farmers have successfully completed this important work. Farms in the Ukraine have harvested 84 percent of the sown area. The figure for the Russian Federation is 36 percent. Particularly behind schedule are Saratovskaya, Penzenskaya, Tambovskaya and Ulyanovskaya oblasts, where some farms have scarcely begun harvesting. Large quantities seed have accummulated on threshing floors in a number of places and there are delays in shipping them to the elevators and oil mills. At present the weather is favorable for harvesting.

The immediate task of farms growing sunflowers is to finish harvesting within the next few months, to gather good-quality seeds and to fulfill plans for the sale of those seeds to the state.

There is activity on the sugar beet plantations. Some 2.5 million hectares of sugar beets have been lifted--67 percent of the sown area. In the Russian Federation almost four-fifths of the sugar beet crop has been harvested, while in the Ukraine and Kirgizia two-thirds and over half of the crop respectively has been harvested. When accelerating the sugar beet harvest it is importantnot to let the crop accumulate in the fields and to insure that they are transported in an uninterrupted flow to processing enterprises' reception centers.

Some 3 million hectares of potatoes have been lifted--93 percent of the sown area. Slightly more potatoes have been sold to the state this year than last. Some 862,000 hectares of vegetables have been harvested--68 percent of the sown area. Some 12.5 million tons of vegetables have been purchased--70 percent of the planned total. Grapes and other fruit are still being picked and shipped to consumers. Some 96,000 hectares of soybeans have been harvested.

Around 50,000 cotton-harvesting machines are now operating in the "white gold" plantations. More than 2 million tons of cotton have already been harvested in Uzbekistan. It is the lofty duty of the country's cottongrowers to increase the harvesting rate with every passing day and to improve the quality of the cotton. An example of successful pledge fulfillment has been set by workers in Azerbaijan, who have already unloaded around 700,000 tons of cotton at reception centers--well in excess of the amount planned.

Fodder procurement is continuing on the country's kolkhozes and sovkhozes. Many farms in Moldavia and Kazakhstan have good fodder stocks. Straw is being shipped to livestock units. The main thing now is to build up as large a stock as possible of silate and root crops, not to be late in harvesting second sowings, and to fully utilize potato and sugar beet tops, as well the waste matter from vegetables. Reliable fodder stocks will help to insure successful wintering and an increase in livestock productivity.

It is in the fall that the foundation for next year's crop is laid. Some 38.6 million hectares of winter crops have been sown--93 percent of the planned total. They have begun tending the sowings in many places. Some 74.3 million hectares have been fall plowed--63 percent of the planned total. There is a need to accelerate the work of organizing tractor pool operations on a 24-hour basis.

PRAVDA REVIEWS PREPARATION OF FODDER FOR WINTER

LD180144 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 2300 GMT 17 Oct 79 LD

[PRAVDA review]

[Summary] The paper reviews preparations of fodders for the winter. By the end of the first 10 days in October kolkhozes and sovkhozes had laid in 91 percent of their planned amount of hay. The rural workers of Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan, Moldavia, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia, and Kurganskaya, Chelyabinskaya, Murmanskaya, Kemerovskaya and Omskaya oblasts have fully provided for livestock's needs of this crop. However, a number of areas have not prepared the necessary amount of hay and other forage. Ninety percent of the required amount of haylage has now been laid in. Meanwhile, the silaging of fodders is continuing throughout the country.

TASS: RECORD RICE HARVEST GATHERED IN KAZAKHSTAN

LD180658 Moscow TASS in English 2010 GMT 17 Oct 79 LD

[Text] Moscow, October 17, TASS--A record rice harvest--102 centners per hectare was gathered in Kazakhstan (Soviet Central Asia) by the farmers of the state farm named after 21st CPSU Congress.

News about good rice harvest comes these days from other regions of the Soviet Union. Thus, the farmers at the biggest in USSR rice producing farm "Krasnoarmeisky" of the Krasnodar region (south of Russian Federation) gathered 60 centners from each of the 7,500 hectares.

Hot weather which had a negative impact on some other crops proved benign to rice. Today, rice harvests are greater than the average level of the last several years. This was also partly due to general improvements in agriculture and improved technology of rice growing.

Rice growing is a young agricultural sector in the USSR. It developed more rapidly in the last ten years when the area for rice cultivation was doubled reaching 600,000 hectares. New rice plantations were set up mainly in the former salinated and swampy areas in North Caucasus, Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan and in the Soviet Far East.

Especially good prospects exist for the rice growers of the Krasnodar region where a water reservoir for 3.2 billion cubic meters was built. It will bring water to new rice fields. The task now is to bring the production of rice in the Krasnodarsk region to about one million tons by 1980.

PAVLODARSKAYA OBLAST WORKERS OVERFULFILL GRAIN SALE PLAN

LD172237 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1400 GMT 17 Oct 79 LD

[Text] The USSR Central Statistical Administration has reported that agricultural workers of Pavlodarskaya Oblast in Kazakhstan have overfulfilled the plan for sale of grain to the state. The farms of the oblast have transported 1.24 million tons of grain crops to procurement points.

Of the main food crop, wheat, 854,000 tons, or 185 percent of the plan, has been sold.

The sale of grain crops to the state is continuing.

PRAVDA VIEWS COMPETITION RESULTS IN AGRICULTURE, INDUSTRY

LD171345 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 12 Oct 79 p 1 LD

[Unattributed "All-Union Competition Diary": "Greeting the October Festival in a Fitting Manner!"]

[Text] Less than a month remains before the 62d anniversary of the Great October Revolution. Competition has been launched in all sectors of the national economy for a fitting welcome to the glorious jubilee.

Workers in the gas industry, instrument making, chemical and petroleum machine building and the radio-electronics industries have successfully met their targets for the first 9 months.

The collectives of the Vuktyl gas field administration, the Shatlykgazdobycha, Orenburggazdobycha, Nizhnevolzhskneft, Ukrneft, Rostovugol, Tulaugol and Uralkhimmash associations, the Magnitogorsk metallurgical combine and the Tashselmash and second Moscow clock and watch plants and others have worked well.

Things are not going successfully everywhere, however. Metallurgical workers, chemical workers and workers in the timber and wood processing industries have fallen behind. In September they fell well behind the plan in supplying finished rolled ferrous metal, mineral fertilizers, cement and lumber. The Kuznetsk and Orsko-Khalilovskiy metallurgical combines and the Mekeyevskiy and Kommunarskiy metallurgical plants have not coped with the 9-month targets for finished rolled metal output. The Azot association in Novgorod, the Uralkaliy association, and the Balakovo chemical plant have not met the production goal for mineral fertilizers while the Gornozavodsk (Permskaya Oblast), Belgorod and Karachayevo-Cherkesskiy cement plants have not reached their cement production targets. Many timber industry associations have failed to cope with the timber haulage target.

In order to overcome the lag as quickly as possible advanced experience must be disseminated more actively. Numerous reports from specific localities confirm how important it is to make efficient labor methods common property as quickly as possible.

A recent Volgogradskiy Obkom plenum approved the experience of the Volzhskiy Gorkom in further developing competition under the motto "Work Without Laggards." This is the third year now that all the enterprises in this city have been fulfilling their targets irreproachably. A harmonious system of party monitoring of the implementation of pledges is functioning here.

However, the "Work Without Laggards" movement has not assumed the requisite scale everywhere. But what are local party, soviet and trade union organs doing about this? They are resigning themselves to the protracted laggardness of many collectives.

The cold weather is approaching and the final stage of preparations for winter is already upon us. At many enterprises heat and energy conduits have still not been repaired and premises have not been put into a fit state for use in winter. The party committees are required to pay greater attention to this work, increasing the responsibility of the economic executives for the creation of favorable conditions for winter work.

There is still time to rectify the situation in the laggard collectives and to bring them up to the standard provided for in the plans and pledges. The efforts of all participants in the competition who are conducting a pre-October labor vigil must be directed toward this.

The grain and pulse harvest is coming to an end. The machine operators of Kazakhstan and Orenburgskaya and other oblasts have distinguished themselves in recent days in the labor battle for grain. Many farms have already fulfilled their plans for the sale of grain to the state. In Kazakhstan the competition is headed by the farmers of Kustanayskaya, Tselinogradskaya and Turgayskaya oblasts. But here and there deliveries of grain to the elevators are proceeding slowly. This applies in particular to farms in the Tatarskaya ASSR and Permskaya and Sverdlovskaya oblasts.

The potato growers are working in shock fashion. Lifting of tubers is drawing to a close. In Belorussia the team headed by A. Demidenko, a distinguished machine operator from the Vedrich strain improvement station [plemzavod], leads in the competition. It has gathered 4,000 tons of potatoes. Never before has anyone succeeded in achieving this kind of output in the republic.

Tubers are being harvested more rapidly than last year in Latvia and in Kuybyshevskaya, Ulyanovskaya and a number of other oblasts. Labor rivalry in the beet fields is also at a high pitch. The machine operators are making widespread use of the continuous-flow method of beet harvesting.

Cotton growers have now reached a busy period. Because of the late ripening of the cotton plants, harvesting has been delayed in many regions. The machine operators are now making up for lost time. The first 2 million tons of raw cotton has arrived at Uzbekistan's procurement centers. The cotton harvest is also gathering momentum in other cotton-growing republics.

The country's kolkhozes and sovkhozes have fulfilled the hay procurement plan by 79 percent, the cured hay procurement plan by 87 percent, and the silage procurement plan by 67 percent. The workers of Kazakhstan, Moldavia and Armenia lead in the competition and have managed to provide livestock units with a full supply of the necessary hay. But these stocks are not adequate everywhere. The kolkhozes and sovkhozes of the Kalmytskaya ASSR and Fyazanskaya, Penzenskaya, Kirovskaya and Astrakhanskaya oblasts, for instance, are experiencing a major hay shortage. Meanwhile, there are thousands of hectares which are yet mowed.

A new stage in the socialist competition has arrived for stockmen. Advanced collectives have made an organized transition to the winter routine of work for the livestock units. In the Ukraine the highest level of labor productivity has been achieved by A. Sologub, a worker at the Shpitkovskiy Sovkhoz, Kiyevskaya Oblast. Each day she obtains almost 20 quintals of milk from 160 cows. At the same time, during the current season some of the republic's farms have cut back milk production. The collectives of a considerable proportion of dairy units in Latvia, Estonia, Lithuania, Belorussia and a number of RSFSR oblasts have also surrendered their hard-won positions. The farms of Kazakhstan and Kurskaya, Tyumenskaya and Tomskaya oblasts have cut back their livestock and poultry purchases. The task is to make up the shortfall during the period when the livestock are kept indoors and to lay a good basis for the sector's further development.

The combat slogan of all those participating in the competition is "A Fitting Greeting for the October Festival!" May the pace of work in all sectors increase during the weeks remaining before that festival!

BRIEFS

SUNFLOWER SEED HARVEST--Odesskaya Oblast farms have completed sunflower seed gathering. In Oviodiopolskiy Rayon per-hectar yields were the best and averaged 24-25 quintals. [Kiev Domestic Service in Ukrainian 0900 GMT 13 Oct 79 AU]